

AND

Back page

Pitcher Kenny Rogers.



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Tom Cruise
in "Collateral"

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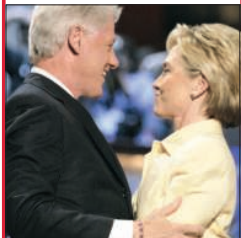
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9/11 commission suggests limiting CIA responsibility Page 4

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Full coverage: Pages 12, 13, 31



JIM SCHULZ/Stars and Stripes

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At the Yokosuka Naval Base library, children hold up books donated by the Virginia-based Alpha Delta Kappa sorority of women educators. Sailors at sea read the books while being videotaped, and the tapes are sent home for their children to watch.

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Missing jogger: The last day her co-workers saw her, Lori Hacking was heading home for the weekend after getting a phone call that left her stunned and sobbing.

Several colleagues said Hacking had been arranging for campus housing at the University of North Carolina medical school and that they believe the school was returning a call to say her husband, Mark Hacking, was not enrolled there, as he had told her.

At the time of her disappearance, the couple were packing to move from Salt Lake City to North Carolina. But after she vanished, police and family members learned that besides lying about being accepted to medical school, Mark Hacking had not even graduated from college.

9/11 illness report: A group of hazardous chemicals released into the air following the collapse of the World Trade Center in New York don't appear to be much of a cancer risk to local residents. A new report says the chemicals dissipated rapidly and any increase in the danger of cancer is very small.

A team led by Stephen Rappaport, of the University of North Carolina, studied 243 samples collected near Ground Zero, analyzing the amounts of nine chemicals known as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, which are known to cause cancer.

Gay marriage snub: A man who married his partner of 23 years after gay marriage was legalized in Massachusetts may be having trouble getting a new passport.

Donald Henneberger, formerly Donald Smith, recently received a letter from the National Passport Center in Portsmouth, N.H., denying his request for a name change on his passport. The center said it would not recognize a marriage license for a same-sex couple as proof of a name change.

The letter from the National Passport Center cites the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which states a marriage can only be between a man and a woman, and a spouse can only refer to a person of the opposite sex.

Moussouli examination: Terrorism suspect Zacarias Moussouli should not be examined by defense mental health experts while his trial is on hold, prosecutors told a judge Monday in Alexandria, Va.

Any psychological testing at this time would make it difficult for government experts to evaluate his mental health later, the written motion said.



California budget: California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, center, jokes with legislative leaders Monday during a news conference to announce an agreement on an estimated \$103 billion budget at the Capitol in Sacramento, Calif. The agreement ended a 24-day standoff that widened after the Republican governor ridiculed state Democrats as "girly men."

The government has said Moussouli's mental condition could play a significant role if the death penalty remains a possible outcome for the only U.S. defendant charged with crimes related to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Escaped tiger: The Florida wildlife officer who shot a 600-pound escaped tiger to death pleaded on Monday for people to stop calling him an "animal murderer."

Jesse Curtis Lee, 24, was identified for the first time as the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officer who shot the big cat twice in the head on July 13 following a 26-hour search.

The commission released its own review of the incident, concluding that Lee used sound judgment and complied with the agency's guidelines when he shot the Bengal-Siberian tiger, called Bobo.

World

Iran nuclear crisis: Iran has broken the U.N. nuclear watchdog's seals on centrifuge equipment and resumed building the devices, which are key to making nuclear weapons, in a show of defiance against international efforts to monitor its program, diplomats in Vienna, Austria, said Tuesday.

The United States and its allies accuse

Iran of working on a weapons program, something Tehran denies. It says its centrifuges are part of a nuclear program aimed solely at producing energy.

Under international pressure last year, the Islamic republic agreed to stop enriching uranium and making centrifuges used for enrichment. But after the International Atomic Energy Agency rebuked it in June for not being open enough about its nuclear program, Tehran responded by saying it would end the suspension on building centrifuges.

War on terrorism

Detainees released: Four French detainees held by U.S. authorities for more than two years at Guantanamo Bay returned home Tuesday — the first French nationals to be released from the U.S. base following months of talks — and negotiations were under way for the transfer of three others.

The four suspects arrived by plane at a military base in Normandy, France, and were taken by bus to Paris to appear before counterintelligence agents and anti-terrorism Judge Jean-Louis Bruguiere.

The men — Mourad Benchellal, Imad Kouni, Nizar Sassi and Ibrahim Yadel — were apprehended in the U.S. campaign that toppled Afghanistan's Taliban regime.

Story and photos from The Associated Press

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JIM SCHULZ/Stars and Stripes

Yokosuka Naval Base kids open a box of books donated by the Alpha Delta Kappa sorority. Sailors at sea read the books while being videotaped, and the tapes are sent home for the kids to watch.

Yokota servicemember sentenced

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — An Air Force servicemember was reduced in rank and sentenced to confinement for two years and six months after admitting that he abused his stepdaughter.

Following a July 12-13 court martial, a technical sergeant assigned to the 730th Air Mobility Squadron was sentenced to confinement for two years and six months, a bad-conduct discharge, reduction in rank to E-1 and forfeiture of all pay and allowances, officials said. He admitted one count of committing indecent acts with a minor.

Witnesses corroborated the confession of the 40-year-old technical sergeant over two days of testimony. The indecent acts reportedly occurred between October 2000 and July 2003.

Stars and Stripes does not identify personnel involved with sexual assault cases if it would identify the victim.

Two bullets still MIA

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — A search party looking for two errant bullets, part of a box that fell from a U.S. Navy helicopter July 19, ended the eighth day of the search without the bullets.

Jon Nylander, spokesman for Commander, Naval Forces Japan, said the searchers, about 20 people each day often deployed in two shifts, had gone over the area thoroughly. The search for the two remaining bullets — 198 were recovered — probably will be called off within the next few days, Nylander said.

"There are two left but the odds are fairly slim of finding them," he said. "They had teams out over the weekend and every day since they started looking for them Monday."

The box of 7.62 mm machine-gun bullets fell around 7:40 a.m. July 19 from an H-60 helicopter on its way from Atsugi Naval Air Facility to guard the USS Kitty Hawk as it made its way to sea. An investigation into how the box fell is continuing. Nylander said he had no information on when it would be complete and the information made public.

The ammo box and most of the bullets were found within a few hours in two spots in a car park in an area of Yokohama. No one was injured and no property damage was reported.

2 injured in violent rooftop incident

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — A U.S. Army contractor was in a Japanese hotel Monday night and a woman was treated and released after a violent incident Monday morning on a Hemi rooftop.

Maj. John Amberg, spokesman for U.S. Army Japan,

said the man, a 46-year-old painter and welder who'd been working at Yokohama North Dock on U.S. Army watercraft for about two years, was in the hospital with injuries, the extent of which were not immediately known. Amberg said Japanese police, who have jurisdiction in the case, had not been able to question the man.

A 34-year-old woman, a U.S. citizen, Amberg said, was treated for injuries and released. Amberg said he had no further information on the woman's identity.

According to initial reports, the man stabbed the woman and had threatened to jump off the roof. But later reports said both had stab wounds, and Amberg said it was unclear whether the man had jumped or fallen from the roof. Amberg said he did not know how many stories the building was but that the man apparently had broken one of his arms.

Guam Community College classes set

Fall 2004 classes at Guam Community College start Aug. 18. Students who want to attend Guam Community College for the Fall 2004 semester must take the English and math placement exams on Aug. 7 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The placement exams are required for all students who will be taking college-level math and English classes. To take the exams, bring a photo ID and pay the \$15 non-refundable fee. Call 735-5562 for more information.

New-student orientation a must for some

New student orientation for Guam Community College will be held on Aug. 11 at 1 p.m. in room C-21. Full-time students who will attend GCC for the first time or students who have not attended an orientation meeting are required to be present. Important information pertaining to admissions, financial aid and class registration will be presented along with a campus tour. Call GCC at 735-5535 for more information.

Placement tests scheduled

English and math placement exams for new students attending the University of Guam will be held on Aug. 6 and 7. The English exam will begin at 8 a.m. on Aug. 6 and the math exam will start at 8 a.m. on Aug. 7. Both exams will be conducted in the Lecture Hall. To attend the exams, please bring a current photo ID and admission application receipt. Contact the university's admissions office at 735-2012 for more information.

The fall course schedule for the University of Guam is available on the Internet at www.ug.edu. Orientation for returning students is Aug. 4-6 and the new student orientation is from Aug. 10-13.

From staff reports

Parents at sea reach out

Reading tape program keeps kids in touch

BY NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Many years ago, when the current USS Kitty Hawk commander, Capt. Tom Parker, was a pilot aboard a ship cruising the Mediterranean, he sat on his bunk, opened a book and created a memory his family has cherished ever since.

The book was "Lemon Drop," concerning a candy-loving zoo elephant. And Parker read it while being videotaped, and mailed the video to his son, Jake, then about 4.

"He'd read a little bit, then he'd go, 'Ow! Ow!'" Parker's wife, Anna, recalled. "All the time he had this plastic shark on his ear. And of course Jake just thought this was hilarious."

The hilarious shark reference was to Parker's squadron, known as the "fightin' bitin'" Steel Jaws.

"It's one of my fondest memories of the early years of my father," said Jake, now 18. "We didn't get to see each other very often but it was a kind of way for us to bond even while he was away."

A Yokosuka woman is working to provide that bonding experience for more base children and their deployed parents. Kara Dallman, a former Navy lieutenant commander who left the service to be a full-time wife and mother, is promoting a long-standing but not fully exploited military program designed to connect deployed parents with their offspring, called United Through Reading.

"This is a good way to keep in touch," Dallman said. "And it gives the parent at home a chance to do laundry or the dishes" while the child watches the video.

Dallman received a \$2,500 donation for books from the Yokosuka Officers' Spouses' Club. On Tuesday, she had children at the base library for a weekly story time, open a box of books donated by the Virginia-based Alpha Delta Kappa sorority of women educators. She also sent letters home with the kids describing the program, sponsored by the Family Literacy Foundation. Part of the idea, she said, is to "get them reading, and good literature, too. There are beautiful books some children have never seen before."

Dallman and a group of coordinators ensure children, books and mailers are brought aboard ships before they deploy; on-board coordinators then schedule taping times and make sure the tapes get

mailed. Dallman also is working to get the same books for children to follow along at home, while the tape plays.

Recently, Petty Officer Second Class Mike McDonald videotaped numerous fathers reading stories aboard the USS Vandegrift and mailed the tapes to Yokosuka from Australia.

"Just to have something in the mail from dad, mailed through the Australian post office!" said Tammy McDonald, Mike's wife and the ship's shore coordinator.

Lt. Cmdr. Jim Jones, who's on the Seventh Fleet staff, participated in the program years ago when he was based in San Diego, aboard the USS Princeton. He then helped get it going locally on the USS Cowpens.

"Actually, it was great," he said. "I know my kids thoroughly enjoyed it. They liked seeing Dad on the tape instead of just getting a phone call or an e-mail. It made them feel more like you were there."

Jones remembered reading "The Panda Palace" and also remembered feeling a little silly the first time out. "Obviously, you feel a little self-conscious when you're reading a children's book to a petty officer who's taping you," he said. "But after you hear from the kids, it makes it a lot easier."

E-mail Nancy Montgomery at: montgomeryn@pstrips.osd.mil

Okinawa group plans festival to celebrate Guam Liberation Day

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The Chamorro community on Okinawa is sponsoring a Guam Liberation Day celebration Saturday at Torii Beach.

The event, to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the invasion that began the battle to retake Guam from the Japanese Imperial Army on July 21, 1944, is set for 1 to 9 p.m. at the main pavilion.

The event is sponsored by the Okinawa Chamorro community, said Wenonah Babauta, publicity coordinator.

Entertainment is to include Chamorro stick dancers, the Kadena Kokusai Matsuri Daiko Drum Corps, disc jockey Tony Ross playing continuous Chamorro music and the Zamami Brothers, Okinawa's musical duo.

The food line is to open at 2 p.m., Babauta said.

On the menu will be Chamorro delicacies including barbecue, red rice and kelaguan, a native Guam dish of broiled or roasted meat, usually chicken or beef, marinated in lemon juice, grated coconut and hot peppers, then served chilled with tortillas or crackers.

The event is free and open to all, Babauta said.

The festival is to open with speeches by Marine Col. Bradley E. Turner, chief of staff of Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, U.S. Vice Agwan, senator in Guam's legislature and its vice speaker, Army Col. Anthony L. Williams, Torii Station commander, and John Quinata, also a senator in Guam's legislature.

Panel: Leave paramilitary to Pentagon

BY JOHN J. LUMPKIN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A proposal buried in the Sept. 11 commission's report recommends that paramilitary operations be made the sole province of the military, which now shares such duties with the CIA.

Having separate structures for paramilitary operations within the federal government is redundant, the panel said.

"Whether the price is measured in either money or people, the United States cannot afford to build two separate capabilities for carrying out secret military operations, secretly operating standoff missiles and secretly training foreign military or paramilitary forces," the report said. "The United States should concentrate responsibility and necessary legal authorities in one entity."

It does not rule out CIA involvement in such operations but says the military should be in charge.

Paramilitary operations, which range from training pro-U.S. insurgents to hunting terrorists, sometimes are overseen by the CIA and sometimes by military special operations forces such as

the Green Berets. Which is used depends on the situation, the need for secrecy and the number of people required.

In its recommendation, the 9/11 panel said the CIA's paramilitary capabilities are regarded as agile, while the military's culture is "methodical and cumbersome."

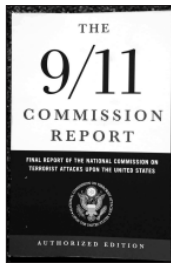
Whether those reputations are deserved the report does not say, but it suggests that the CIA's experts should be integrated into the military's much larger paramilitary force.

Pentagon and CIA officials said all the report's recommendations will be studied closely but were noncommittal about specific proposals.

A Pentagon spokesman said that since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, military personnel and CIA operatives have enjoyed an unprecedented level of cooperation.

Although similar in mission, some distinctions exist between the military and CIA commands.

Military special operations forces number just under 50,000, including reservists, and have a wide range of capabilities. The Ar-



my's Rangers serve as an elite infantry force, the Green Berets work with foreign troops and insurgents, and Delta Force is a specially trained counterterrorism and hostage rescue unit.

Navy SEALs specialize in maritime and coastal operations but often are found alongside the Army's special operations.

The Air Force has a highly

trained cadre of operators capable of coordinating airstrikes and rescuing downed pilots.

These forces fall under the military chain of command and bureaucracy and are subject to military law and treaties to limit activities of armed forces.

That's where the CIA's paramilitaries traditionally have entered the picture. Many are retired military special operators.

They are part of the CIA's covert operations arm, called the Special Activities Division. Some of the spies in the unit specialize in propaganda and economic and political disruption; others, members of the Special Operations Group, are true warriors.

One such paramilitary was Johnny "Mike" Spann, the first American to die in combat in Afghanistan, killed during a 2001 prison uprising.

For the paramilitaries to go into action, the president must sign a secret document called a "finding" that governs their activities, and designated congressional leaders are informed.

Unlike the Green Berets, the CIA agents can operate without

uniform or identification as officers of the U.S. government.

If any are caught or killed, the government plausibly can deny their identities as government agents. Unlike most military special operations forces, women are among the CIA's paramilitary ranks.

In recent decades, the paramilitary force has seen heavy use in Central America, Angola and Afghanistan.

During the Reagan administration, they mined harbors in Nicaragua and armed the Contra rebels fighting out of neighboring Honduras.

In Afghanistan, they helped the mujahideen fight the Soviet invasion. Osama bin Laden, the head of al-Qaida network, was among them.

During the Vietnam War, CIA operatives ran "Air America," which supplied the agency's covert effort in Laos; and Operation Phoenix, which claimed tens of thousands of lives in an effort to root out Communist leaders in South Vietnam.

The size of the CIA's paramilitary force is classified, although it's known to have enlarged significantly since the Sept. 11 attacks.

Navy full steam ahead with new cashless ship system

The Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — The aircraft carrier Harry S. Truman is among the first wave of cashless ships, with its crew relying instead on red, white and blue debit cards.

The switch to plastic has done away with the chapel's collection plate. Worshipers donate electronically on their way in and out of services.

For the past two months, more than 5,000 sailors and Marines carried the debit-only MasterCard at sea. The cards were loaded with cash by crew members, who transferred money from their personal bank accounts by using one of five automated teller machines on board.

The Harry S. Truman is one of 24 Navy ships that no longer use cash on board.

"We couldn't be any happier with the program," said Cmdr. John King, the Truman's supply officer.

Every place dollars and cents had been used before — from the vending machines on the mess decks to the ship store to the ticket booth at the carrier's recreation department — now takes only plastic.

With the card, sailors at sea can receive pay, access home bank and credit union accounts, transfer and withdraw money, and make purchases.

The carrier used to carry \$250,000 in coins, largely to feed the vending machines.

"There were some people who were skeptical when we first started," King said. "Now we have very few naysayers."

The Truman completed two months at sea on Sunday as part of a large-scale deployment for seven carriers around the world.

When the carrier pulled into ports like Naples, Italy, Petty Officer 2nd Class Cathie Bohannon didn't head to the currency exchange with a wad of bills. Instead, she said she stuck the new card in an ATM in town, taking out euros instead of dollars to buy souvenirs at the Hard Rock Cafe in Rome.

"I think it has great advantages for sailors," said Bohannon, 36. "You can find out your balance right there."

The Navy is moving ahead full steam with the cashless fleet.

Last month, the Naval Supply Systems Command, in conjunction with the federal Department of the Treasury, announced that the program would be expanded to a total of 175 ships over the next four years.

It started in April 2001 on the fast frigate Ramfear based in San Diego. Over the next two years, the pilot program grew to include eight ships representing six ship classes.

More than 25,643 "Marine Cash" cards are currently issued on 24 ships, with \$27 million processed since the program's inception. More than 5.7 million transactions have been completed with nary a penny changing hands.

According to Scott Nester, a chief petty officer on the Truman, the money collected on the carrier used to take people working in shifts around the clock to count and process.

"Now, it's all done electronically, so I can use those two people elsewhere in my operations," he said in a Navy news release.



The USS Harry S. Truman, shown last week in the Atlantic, is among the first wave of cashless ships, with its crew relying instead on red, white and blue debit cards. Truman is one of 24 Navy ships that no longer use cash on board.

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Officer facing hearings for shooting in Iraq

BY PANOS KAKAVIATOS

The Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany — The first U.S. soldier charged with murder in Iraq is maintaining his innocence as he faces hearings that could lead to his court martial for the shooting of a man during the hunt for Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

Capt. Rogelio M. Maynulet, 29, is due to appear Wednesday before a U.S. military court in Hansau, outside Frankfurt, for a military version of a U.S. grand jury investigation that is looking into the killing.

The hearing began in Baghdad but was suspended June 28 after four days, as Maynulet's 1st Armored Division returned home to Germany.

Maynulet was charged June 12 with murder and the slaying of a rival cleric, the suspected killing of an "unidentified paramilitary member" May 21 near Kufa, south of Baghdad.

He is not in custody.

Before the charges, the Chicago native was a career soldier on his way up who was praised by his superiors in Iraq, said 1st Armored Division spokesman Maj. Michael Indovina.

"The gentleman had a good reputation. He was doing well in combat," Indovina told The Associated Press.

On May 21, Maynulet led his tank company on a mission between Najaf and Kufa to capture or kill al-Sadr, who was wanted on

an Iraqi arrest warrant in connection with the slaying of a rival cleric.

Maynulet's group spotted a speeding BMW and pursued, the military said.

"A chase began, and U.S. forces shot at the vehicle. The driver and a passenger were wounded. Shortly thereafter, the wounded driver was shot and killed at close range," the U.S. military said in a statement announcing charges against Maynulet, who is accused of doing the shooting.

The military has not released further details of the incident, but a better picture is expected to emerge from the Article 32 hearings.

Family members of the driver maintain

that soldiers took the man out of the car and hit him with a heavy block before he was shot.

But Maynulet's lawyer, Capt. Will Helixon, disputes the account.

"The family's account of the incident is inaccurate," he told The AP. He said Maynulet denies the charges, but that he could not elaborate on his side of the story because the proceedings are still under way. Maynulet declined interview requests by The Associated Press, but he told the Chicago Tribune recently that he was innocent.

Court sessions were scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday. A source familiar with the case said the hearings are likely to last well into August and involve a wide range of defense witnesses.



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Marine unit praised for action in Afghanistan

BY JON R. ANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Top military leaders in Afghanistan are hailing a Marine offensive deep inside southern Afghanistan's Uruzgan Province as the most successful operation here since the 2001 invasion.

Tucked away in southern Afghanistan's rugged mountains, the province has provided a sanctuary for Taliban holdouts, say officials. But not anymore.

The Marine offensive, which began in March and is just now wrapping up, was the first invasion into the area by conventional forces.

The Marines are credited with killing more than 100 Taliban and al-Qaida fighters during weeks of running gunbattles in an area completely avoided by conventional U.S. forces until their arrival.

"You're the best this place has ever seen," Army Maj. Gen. Eric Olson, the top field commander in Afghanistan, told a gathering Ma-

lines at Kandahar Airfield this weekend.

The Marine's offensive, he said, put the Taliban on the run in their own back yard.

"Never again can they use that place as a sanctuary," said Olson. "You proved to the world the United States of America is going to take this fight to the most dangerous part of Afghanistan unafraid and absolutely determined."

Olson said the Marine offensive also caught the Taliban off guard.

"You rocked him back on his heels. You knocked him on his ass."

"You went places that has never seen an American."

"You went to find him on his turf, on his terms, on his ground and kicked him in the ass."

"And that surprised him."

Olson said the MEU's performance had also "made an impression on the most senior leaders."

Quoting Lt. Gen. David Barno, the overall commander of U.S. efforts in Afghanistan, Olson said,

"Never in the history of Operation Enduring Freedom has there been an offensive operation like the one the 22nd MEU conducted. Never have we been this successful. You have made history here."

Half of 22nd will get just 5 months before Iraq duty

BY JON ANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Many Marines of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit will barely get a chance to clean off the dust from Afghanistan before they find themselves chewing on Iraqi sand.

Even with their six-month Afghanistan deployment extended by a month so they could continue their push through southern Afghanistan, many Marines said they have to prepare now for their next tour.

"It's a sign of the times," said Col. Kenneth McKenzie Jr., commander of the Camp Lejeune, N.C.-based 22nd MEU. "This has all happened since Iraq's last flare-up," McKenzie said. "Everything is in a state of flux."

Each of the Marine Corps' seven MEUs are task forces that bring together infantry, artillery, aviation, logistics and other units into one 2,300-strong package.

Even McKenzie's own headquarters will likely be thrown back into the mix sooner rather than later.

"I think we'll be out sometime next year," McKenzie said. Of the three MEUs based at Camp Lejeune, the 24th MEU is already in Iraq and the 26th MEU will hand off with the 24th as it returns to port.

Unless they accept a gap, which is possible, we'll go early," McKenzie said.

But there's no doubt for many within the MEU.

The MEU's 800-strong light infantry contingent — 1st Battalion, 6th Marines — has already been told to expect to ship out to Iraq within five months after it returns home in September.

Usually, Marines returning from overseas deployments get 12 to 18 months before pushing back out again. But not these days.

"That's all out the window now," said Capt. Paul Merida, commander of 1st Battalion's Company C. "We're spread pretty thin. If something were to happen somewhere else, I don't know who we'd send."

Complicating matters is the fact that 1st Battalion will lose about half of its Marines once it returns from Afghanistan.

Of the 800 Marines in the unit, said Command Sgt. Maj. Tom Hall, "only 412 will deploy to Iraq

with us." The rest will move to new duty assignments or get out of the Marine Corps.

"We're going to lose a lot of our small unit leaders," said Merida, adding that many will not be replaced by Marines of equal rank and experience.

Instead, officials anticipate receiving only an influx of fresh recruits straight from boot camp. And most of those will probably come after the new year.

"That's only going to give us about two months to get them trained and ready for combat before we leave for Iraq," said Merida. "It's going to be tough."

Meanwhile, he added, junior Marines in the unit will have to step up and fill those key leadership roles.

"It's entirely possible that we'll see squads being led by lance corporals," a position usually reserved for sergeants, two ranks higher.

Combat experience from Afghanistan will help mitigate that, said Merida, but will only go so far. That's why, even as the MEU is beginning its withdrawal, leaders like Merida have begun training for Iraq.

"Ask around," Merida told a group of his Marines in the middle of training this weekend in a corner of Kandahar's heat-baked airfield. "The guys that are going to lead this platoon in Iraq are sitting right here, right now. You're it."

"Whether this unit is successful in Iraq or not depends on what you do between now and the next few months," Merida said. "Because once those recruits get off the buses from the School of Infantry, it's going to be too late."

The Marines — some less than two years out of high school — nodded their heads solemnly.

Lance Cpl. William Yarborough cradled his assault rifle, he was teasing intently, a gold cross poking awkwardly out of the collar of desert fatigues, the words "Death Dealer" tattooed onto his right arm in rolling black script.

"It's going to be hard getting everyone prepared," he said later. He thinks he'll be ready, though, to take over a squad when his time comes.

"I'm just going to give my Marines the hardest time they've ever had in their lives and do whatever I can to take care of them."

E-mail Jon Anderson at: andersonj@mail.stripses.osd.mil

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IN THE WORLD

Palestinian premier retracts resignation

Qureia ends standoff with Yasser Arafat

BY LARA SUKHITIAN
The Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia rescinded his resignation Tuesday, kissing and embracing Yasser Arafat as the two ended a 10-day political standoff and a deep rift over power.

Qureia resigned earlier this month in frustration at Arafat's refusal to let him restructure the security forces and deal with growing unrest in the Palestinian areas. But Arafat refused to let him step down.

Arafat's almost absolute control over the Palestinian Authority has been a source of frustration for the United States and other countries hoping to promote reform among the Palestinian leadership.

Hassan Abu Libdeh, general secretary of the Cabinet, said Arafat had agreed to give up some control over security forces. During a visit to Budapest, Hungary, Secretary of State Colin Powell urged Arafat to make good on his word.

"We need action, not propositions, no proposals, no commitments," Powell said. "Action. Real action that transfers power to a prime minister of the Palestinian people, and Palestinian Authority, and consolidation of security services with those consolidated services being under the direction of the prime minister."

Under the agreement, Qureia's power would be limited to the internal security forces, while Arafat would retain control over the Palestinian intelligence ser-

vices and armed forces, Palestinian officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Still, the officials said Arafat gave ground on the key issue of corruption, agreeing to order the attorney general to open investigations against tainted officials.

Condemnations of corrupt practices has been one of the major themes of demonstrations in the Gaza Strip over the past two weeks.

Qureia told reporters at a news conference that the two leaders had agreed to enforce power structures already in place.

"I'm not going to bargain with the president about authority over the security branches," Qureia told a news conference in the West Bank City of Ramallah. "We have enough powers over them as it stands."

The two men emerged from a closed-door meeting, kissing each other on the cheeks and clapping and holding up their hands together.

"The president refused my resignation, and I will comply," Qureia said. "This is a new step toward reform and imposing the rule of law. There will be actions on the ground."

Qureia's resignation two weeks ago coincided with a wave of kidnappings, riots and calls for reform that put Arafat in one of his most difficult positions since returning to the Palestinian territories from exile a decade ago.

Also Tuesday, two Palestinians were killed when Israeli troops backed by helicopter gunships traded fire with Palestinians in an eastern neighborhood of Gaza City, Palestinian security officials said. They added that one of the dead was wearing the uniform of the Hamas militant group but said the second man was a non-combatant.

The officials said five local residents were wounded by the gunfire, among them a 12-year-old bystander.



North Korean defectors look through their bus window on a road in Seoul on Tuesday. Two hundred North Koreans flew into South Korea on Tuesday, the largest group ever to reach the capitalist South, a news report said. Another group, numbering 260, was expected to arrive Wednesday.

Largest group of defecting N. Koreans reaches South

BY SOO-JEONG LEE
The Associated Press

SEOUL — About 200 North Korean defectors, the largest group ever to reach South Korea, arrived in the capital on Tuesday, to be followed soon by an even larger group, according to a news report.

A trickle of defectors to the South has grown into a steady stream in recent years as more North Koreans flee hunger and repression in their communist country, mostly fleeing across its long border with China before heading to other countries.

Analysts said it was too soon to say whether Tuesday's group marks the start of a mass exodus. Previously, defecting North Koreans have arrived in the South in small groups of three or four, or a dozen.

"I think it is difficult to interpret the latest event as a possible beginning of mass defection,"

said Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea expert in Seoul. Koh said North Korea probably would try to crack down harder on its citizens seeking to flee.

The defectors arrived from an unidentified Asian country on a plane chartered by the South Korean government, South Korea's Yonhap news agency said. South Korean government officials declined to confirm the report.

Yonhap said the 200 North Koreans were among 460 defectors that South Korea is trying to bring in from a Southeast Asian country.

The second group was expected to arrive Wednesday.

The defectors were whisked away in five buses. The government typically puts defectors through a month of questioning before giving them a two-month orientation course on how to make their way in their new capitalist home.

Television footage showed buses standing near the Asiana Airlines plane, and later taking the people away. However, reporters were barred from getting close to the scene.

More than 60 percent of the 460 defectors are women and children, and most of them had illegally entered the Southeast Asian country via China, Yonhap said.

Human rights groups have said that hundreds of North Koreans are living in Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia and other Southeast Asian countries, and are eager to travel to South Korea.

Over 5,000 North Koreans have defected to South Korea since the 1950-53 Korean War. Last year, the number of defectors arriving in the South reached 1,285, up from 1,140 in 2002 and 583 in 2001.

South Korea's Unification Minister Chung Dong-young said Tuesday the number of defectors was expected to reach 10,000 within "a couple of years."

Bomb threat forces L.A.-bound United flight to return to Sydney

BY MIKE CORDER
The Associated Press

SYDNEY, Australia — A United Airlines flight carrying 246 passengers to Los Angeles returned to Sydney on Tuesday after a bomb threat that police later described as a hoax was

found scrawled on an air sickness bag.

The hoax came just days after a purported al-Qaida-linked group threatened to turn Australia into "pools of blood" if the government doesn't withdraw its almost 900 troops from Iraq.

All flights in and out of Sydney Airport were halted as UA Flight 840 to Los Angeles turned around 90 minutes into its flight, dumped fuel and landed on a runway flanked by firetrucks and ambulances.

Police escorted passengers off the plane and into buses before interviewing and releasing them all.

"We have been carrying out our investigations since the plane landed and I'm quite satisfied that it is a hoax," Police Commander Peter O'Brien said.

He said no arrests had been made and authorities were still hunting for whoever wrote on the bag and left it in one of the Boeing 747's toilets.

Australian Broadcasting Corp. television reported the letters "B O B" had been written on the bag, which crew members took to mean "Bomb On Board."

Prime Minister John Howard said he believed the pilot acted correctly.

"I've been fully briefed on what's happened and I totally support the decision taken by the pilot," Howard said. "It was the right thing to do in the circumstances."

After the plane taxied to a remote spot at the airport the passengers got off and their baggage was removed and searched. No bomb was found.

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Liberia finally celebrates its independence in peace

BY JONATHAN PAYE-LAYLEH
The Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — Liberia's newly peaceful capital on Monday celebrated to the sounds of drumbeats and army bands, marking its first postwar independence holiday with military parades and cheering crowds.

For Liberians, the holiday marking Liberia's 1847 founding was a dual cause for celebration because

it fell near the first anniversary of warlord-president Charles Taylor's Aug. 11 flight into exile, ending 14 years of conflict here.

"Considering where Liberia was exactly a year ago and where it is today, the nation is truly blessed," interim President Gyude Bryant told U.N. officials, government leaders and diplomats.

The holiday this year finds Liberia trying to recover from

more than a decade of conflict, which ended after Taylor — cornered in Monrovia by rebels shelling the city — agreed to go into exile in Nigeria.

Taylor's departure, brought about only under intense international pressure, paved the way for a transitional government that took power in October.

Last year's holiday fell during weeks of rocket and mortar attacks on Monrovia, which were unleashed by both Taylor's forces and the rebels fighting to oust him. Hundreds of civilians died.

The 2003 siege was the last of years of battles under Taylor that



JUSTIN D. PYLE/Courtesy of U.S. Air Force

A U.S. Special Operations Security Team leader guides U.S. citizens as they depart the American Embassy in Monrovia, Liberia, during Operation Shining Express in June 2003. This year's independence holiday finds Liberia at peace, almost a year after former President Charles Taylor left the country for good.

killed an estimated 250,000.

On Monday, military and paramilitary troops dressed in brand-new uniforms drilled in formation before dignitaries, with hundreds of onlookers watching.

"As today's festivities also showed, this is no ordinary anniversary, for your country is turning a

new page in its history," U.N. Liberia envoy Jacques Klein said.

"You could call this the first anniversary of the new Liberia," Klein, an American, said. The U.N. has 15,000 peacekeepers positioned in the country, as well as programs for resuming the disarmament and rehabilitation of former soldiers.



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Former Vice President Al Gore and his wife, Tipper, wave to the crowd Monday during the Democratic National Convention at the FleetCenter in Boston. Gore joined former President Bill Clinton and his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.), and former President Jimmy Carter as opening night speakers.

Democratic heavy hitters seize spotlight in Boston

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Democrats, energized by their last first lady, were set to get their first long look Tuesday at the multimillionaire heiress who would be their next one as they turn to John Kerry's outspoken wife and an aging liberal warrior to define the Massachusetts senator they would put in the White House.

Teresa Heinz Kerry, widow of a Republican senator who inherited his family's ketchup fortune, and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy were to offer the nation a more personal and family view of the party's candidate for president on the second night of the Democratic National Convention. Kerry was appearing in the Navy town of Norfolk, Va., on Tuesday, where he was calling for the Sept. 11 commission to continue working past its scheduled end date of Aug. 26 to ensure recommended reforms are put in place.

Kerry is to arrive at the convention Wednesday as the question of whether he or Bush can best protect America from terrorists continues to dominate the political debate.

It was former President Bill Clinton and his wife who were the convention's stars Monday.

Introducing her husband Monday night as "the last great Democratic president," New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton revved up the packed convention hall by saying Kerry "will lead the world, not alienate it."

When the former president took the stage, delegates jumped up, screamed, applauded and waved placards. Even as he clearly enjoyed it, Clinton quickly turned the focus to insisting that Kerry would be a good commander in chief.

"During the Vietnam War, many young men, including the current president, the vice president and me, could have gone to

Vietnam and didn't. John Kerry came from a privileged background. He could have avoided going, too, but instead, he said: 'Send me,' Clinton said.

In keeping with the Democratic convention strategy of avoiding strong Bush-bashing, Clinton jabbed the Republicans sharply on the economy, tax cuts and corporate windfalls, while taking more subtle digs at the president himself.

Kerry has "a willingness to hear other views, even those who disagree with him," Clinton said. John Kerry will make choices that reflect both conviction and common sense."

Former President Carter accused President Bush of squandering the international goodwill that flowed to the United States in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

"After 9/11, America stood proud, wounded but determined and united," Carter said in a speech Monday night to the opening session of the Democratic National Convention. "But in just 34 months, we have watched with deep concern as all this goodwill has been squandered by a virtually unbroken series of mistakes and miscalculations."

"Unilateral acts and demands have isolated the United States from the very nations we need to join us in combatting terrorism."

Seeking to counter those who say Kerry is better suited than John F. Kerry to defend the nation against the threat of terrorism, Carter noted that the Massachusetts senator is a decorated Vietnam veteran "who knows the horrors of war and the responsibilities of leadership."

"When our national security requires military action, John Kerry has already proven in Vietnam that he will not hesitate to act," Carter said. "And as a proven defender of our national security, John Kerry will strengthen the global alliance against terrorism while avoiding unnecessary wars."

The former president avoided mentioning Bush by name but sprinkled his speech with references to "trust" and "telling the truth," and denounced the "confused and disturbing strategy of pre-emptive war."

Former Vice President Al Gore urged Democrats to "fully and completely" channel their anger over the bitter Florida recount, which decided the 2000 election in Bush's favor, and send Kerry to the White House.

Pre-convention polls show Kerry tied or slightly ahead of Bush, although the same surveys show the president with a clear advantage over his challenger in handling the war on terror.

Poll: Voters believe Kerry hasn't taken stance on the issues

By RICHARD MORIN AND CLAUDIA DEANE

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A majority of voters say they know little about John F. Kerry's positions on key issues and want the Democratic presidential candidate to detail specific plans for handling the economy, Iraq and the war on terrorism when he addresses the Democratic National Convention and a nationally televised audience on Thursday, according to a new Washington Post-ABC News poll.

The survey suggests that the stakes for Kerry and the Democrats as they began their convention in Boston could not be higher. In barely a month, Kerry has lost ground to President Bush on every top voting issue in this year's election.

A growing proportion of voters say Bush and not Kerry is the candidate who most closely shares their values, and four in 10 believe the Democrat is "too liberal." Bush has even narrowed the gap on which candidate better understands their problems, an area that Kerry has led.

The poll suggests that negative ads by the Bush-Cheney campaign that have been airing since early March, as well as attacks by Republican officials, have been increasingly successful in planting the image of Kerry as an unreliable leader who flip-flops on the issues — perceptions that Democrats will work hard to reverse at their convention.

Kerry's advisers downplayed the results of the Post-ABC poll, asserting that the senator from Massachusetts enters the convention stronger than other recent challengers to incumbent presidents.

Cheryl Utley, 43, of Lowell, Mich., would seem to be exactly the kind of voter that Kerry is targeting this week. Utley, a restaurant worker, is an independent living in a battleground state. She is leaning toward Bush even though she has more often supported Democrats.

"I have more of a sense of where he stands on things than Kerry," she said.

The survey found that Kerry and Bush remain virtually deadlocked, with 48 percent of registered voters supporting Bush and 46 percent Kerry. Independent candidate Ralph Nader claims 3 support of the hypothetical vote. In mid-June, Kerry held a four-point lead over Bush and was tied with Bush in a Post survey two weeks ago.

Kerry has slipped even though Bush remains unpopular with many Americans. Currently half of Americans approve of the job he is doing as president and 47 percent disapprove. Fewer than half endorse the way he is managing the economy, the situation in Iraq and health care.

More broadly, a majority of Americans — 53 percent — say they are dissatisfied with the way things are going in the country, a 21-point increase since Saddam Hussein's government fell to U.S. forces 15 months ago.

Although the electorate remains deeply divided, the survey found one area of broad agreement: Two in three voters say this election is one of the most important of their lives.

"I think it is the most important election since World War II," said Lee Gearhart, 72, a retired insurance agent in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. "It looked like it was a regular election to begin with — until Mr. Bush got us into war."

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GOP tries to counter first day of speeches

BY WILL LESTER
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Republicans ridiculed Democrat John Kerry's primary campaign contortions about the war on Iraq on Tuesday and handed out pictures of Kerry clad in a hooded blue anti-contamination suit as he climbed out of a NASA space shuttle orbiter.

The GOP effort to pull a "Dukakis" on Kerry is shifting into high gear.

In 1988, Republicans were able to turn Michael Dukakis from a Democratic presidential front-runner into a caricature soundly beaten by President Bush's father.

Key elements of that transformation were a constant drumbeat of criticism of Dukakis' alleged "liberal record" as governor of Massachusetts and a photo of Dukakis riding in a tank while wearing a helmet.

Asked the significance of the photo of Kerry in the anti-contamination suit, Republican chairman Ed Gillespie smiled broadly and said, "We just thought it was a great photo."

Republicans gathered at the GOP war room on Tuesday tried to pick apart a suggestion by former President Clinton that Kerry has the "strength and wisdom" to keep America safe.

"Part of wisdom is having a vision and being consistent with that vision," said Minnesota Sen. Norm Coleman. "With Senator Kerry, we have seven different positions on his vote against the \$7 billion dollars for Iraq."



NASA/AP

GOP strategists are circulating this photo of Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry touring space shuttle Discovery on Monday, hoping to repeat their 1988 success in defeating Michael Dukakis.

While Republicans praised Clinton's speech Monday night, they turned on the Democrats Tuesday and claimed they were making false statements about the Bush White House record. The Republicans said Democrats are exaggerating the threats to Social Security, Medicare and a federal program that put extra police on the streets.

"You can say these things with a smile on your face, sound like you have a positive message," said Texas Railroad Commissioner Michael Williams, adding that statements distorting Bush's record are "still a falsehood."

Republicans say Clinton's successful Monday night speech will make things harder for Kerry on Thursday when he accepts the nomination.

"It's going to be difficult for Kerry to wrest control of these folks from the thrall of Bill Clinton," said veteran GOP strategist Rich Galen.

Military providing unprecedented levels of security

BY ROBERT BURNS
The Associated Press

BOSTON — The Pentagon has quietly positioned air, land and sea forces in and around Boston in an unprecedented level of military support for a national political convention, a military spokesman said Monday.

"We have provided security for past conventions but nothing to the extent we have now," said Michael Kucharek, a spokesman for U.S. Northern Command, which was created after Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to ensure that the military is prepared for security threats inside U.S. borders.

"This is somewhat of a precedent-setting situation," given that the Democratic National Convention is the first political convention since the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, he said.

Most of the security visible on the streets of Boston is state and local police. Kucharek said the military's main role is behind-the-scenes coordination and preparation to respond to a major emergency.

Kucharek said he could not disclose numbers or other details of the military presence in Boston. He said it includes representatives of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard — both active duty and National Guard.

The Air Force is flying combat air patrols in the vicinity of Boston, he said, as is normal for what the military calls a "special security event," like the Super Bowl held in Houston last winter.

In addition to active duty forces, the Massachusetts and Maine National Guards make up "Joint Task Force-Democratic National Convention," Kucharek said. It is commanded by Army Brig. Gen. Gary A. Pappas, who is commander of the Massachusetts Army National Guard.

Kucharek said a similar arrangement would be made for the Republican National Convention in New York in late August.

By federal law the U.S. military is barred from performing domestic law enforcement duties, but Kucharek said the arrangement made for Boston this week enables the military to provide crisis support if requested by the U.S. Secret Service. He offered no specifics, but typically that means the military might be called upon to help mitigate the effects of, say, a chemical or biological weapons attack through its extensive decontamination and medical evacuation resources.

The Coast Guard has said it planned to use infrared and night-vision cameras in Boston Harbor and to randomly board commercial ships for security checks.

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IN THE STATES

Muslim charity indicted; Hamas ties cited

BY CURT ANDERSON

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A major American Muslim charity and seven of its officers were charged Tuesday with providing millions of dollars in support to Hamas, a Palestinian extremist organization blamed for dozens of suicide bomber attacks in Israel.

The 42-count indictment, returned by a federal grand jury in Dallas, alleges that the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development provided more than \$12.4 million to individuals and organizations linked to

Hamas from 1995 to 2001. The U.S. government froze the charity's assets in 2001.

The indictment names the foundation along with its president, Shukri Abu Baker; chairman, Ghassan Elabbadi; executive director, Hatham Maghawri; and four others. The charges include conspiracy, providing material support to a foreign terrorist organization, tax evasion and money laundering.

Noting that a number of Americans have been Hamas victims, Attorney General John Ashcroft said at a news conference to announce charges, "Today, a U.S.-based charity that claims to do good works is charged with funding the works of evil."

The attorney general said the foundation gave money to the families of Hamas terrorists killed and jailed by Israel.

On Monday, the foundation filed a complaint with the inspector general of the Justice Department and asked for an investigation because it claimed the FBI fabricated its case.

Holy Land, which claims to be the largest U.S. Muslim charity, has been shut down since about \$4 million of its assets were frozen by the U.S. government in December 2001. Federal courts have repeatedly rejected Holy Land's appeals to get its assets un-

frozen, concluding that the government has sufficient evidence linking the charity to terrorism.

The charity has insisted that its money went only for relief to refugees, orphans and disaster victims.

John Boyd, a lawyer for the Holy Land Foundation, said he had not seen the indictment and could not comment in detail. However, he questioned the use of old transactions in the indictment.

"If these are related to transactions in '88 and '89, that is six years before Hamas committed its first terrorist acts and seven years before Hamas was declared a terrorist organization," Boyd said.

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Report: Drinker's health risks crucial

NIH finds individual's makeup determines alcohol's effects

BY LAURAN NEERGAARD
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Alcohol is the Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde of the medical world: Drinking too much causes serious problems, while drinking a little may help many people's health.

How many drinks provide just the benefits and not the harm? It depends on whether a person is most at risk of heart disease, diabetes or breast cancer. But there is one bottom line: Five or six drinks only on Saturday night will provide no benefits, while a drink or two a night might.

So concludes an exhaustive new analysis by

the National Institutes of Health that sorts out a plethora of sometimes conflicting research on alcohol's effects.

The review was prompted by cardiologists' complaints that patients suddenly were asking if they should start imbibing and how much. Other research is overturning the dogma that people at risk of diabetes should abstain, but more links even light drinking to breast cancer.

Adding confusion, people are vulnerable to more than one disease as they age. A 50-year-old woman with breast cancer in the family might get very different advice on alcohol than one who's pre-diabetic with high cholesterol.

Hence NIH's review.

"We are not encouraging anybody to start drinking," stresses Lorraine Gunzerath of the NIH's National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, who led the analysis published last month in the journal *Alcoholism: Clinical & Experimental Research*. After all, alcoholism remains a major health problem, and people with liver disease may not tolerate even moderate drinking.

Instead, the report, aimed at people who already drink some, concludes that to get alcohol's potential health benefits, how much those people can consume must be customized by their age, gender and overall medical history.



A man enjoys the wares at a wine tasting at Millbrook (N.Y.) Vineyards & Winery this month. A new study by the National Institutes of Health attempts to balance findings over the beneficial and harmful effects of alcohol consumption.

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Dashboards

blamed in fatal wreck

BY DAN JOLING
The Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — When a pickup truck crossed the double yellow line along Seward Highway and killed two occupants of a Jeep Grand Cherokee, police initially blamed the accident for a momentary tragic mistake by a momentarily distracted driver.

Then they spotted the dashboard DVD player.

In what may be the first trial of its kind in the nation, prosecutors have accused the truck's driver of second-degree murder for watching a movie instead of the road when he crashed into the Jeep.

The pickup's driver, Erwin J. Peterson Jr., denies using the DVD player as he drove north on Oct. 12, 2002, and contends he was only listening to music from a compact disc, said his attorney, Chuck Robinson.

Peterson, 29, is accused of killing Robert Weiser, 60, and his wife Donna Weiser, 56, of Anchorage, while on a three-hour drive.

While no Alaska law prohibits operating a DVD player in view of a driver, prosecutor June Stein said the facts warranted charging Peterson under one of two theories: that he knew his conduct was substantially certain to cause death, or that he knowingly engaged in conduct showing extreme indifference to human life.

Initial Alaska State Trooper reports said Peterson was at fault when he took his eyes off the road to reach for a soda. Stein, though, will try to prove that the DVD player was on, apparently playing the movie "Road Trip."

"We know it was," she said. "It was wired so that the screen was in the open position when the ignition key was turned on."

The murder trial got under way last week in Kenai Superior Court.

Installed as recommended, DVD players and TV screens are either visible only from the back seats or will not work unless the vehicle is in park. But owners can defeat the safety measures by installing the devices themselves, as Peterson did, according to prosecutors.

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THURSDAY EVENING / JULY 29, 2004

MOVIES • SPORTS

J	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30
6	AFN-P	•ESPN News	Pacific Report	Everybody Loves Raymond: "Dora at the Lodge" Debra Messing, Frank	Scrubs: "My Butter-Belly" Buttery afflicts Dr. House and Turk's take a trip to the	My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiance (CC)	ER: Just a Touch? A woman accuses Dr. Pratt of sexual harassment. Weaver vows to fight for her baby boy. (CC)	Pacific Report	The Tonight Show (CC)			Late Show (CC)
7	AFN-AT	6:30 Guiding Light (CC)	General Hospital (CC)	Headline News	Judge Judy (CC)	Today: Democratic National Convention in Boston. (CC)		Aash! Real Monsters (EB) (CC)	The Weekenders (EB) (CC)	Yu-Gi-Oh! (CC)	Mucha Lucha (CC)	
8	NEWS	60 Minutes II (CC)	The O'Reilly Factor (CC)			Good Morning America (CC)		Headline News	ABC World News This Morning (CC)	The Early Show (CC)		
9	SPTS	•MLB: 2004 MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced	•SportsCenter			MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.		•SportsCenter			•X-Files: Classic 2003 Moto-X.	
10	SPTS	One Tree Hill: "With Arms Outstretched" Nathan takes a break from his job to help his friend. (CC)	The West Wing: "Inauguration Day: Over the Hill" The White House moves closer to a military action. (CC)	Dominic Dune: "Power, Privilege & Justice" Ted Dune's a bounty hunter captures fugitive Andrew Lander. (CC)	Journeys to the Ends of the Earth: The Gardam Mountains in Southeast Asia. (CC)	Inspector Morse: "The Death of the Self" (1992, Mystery) John Thaw, Kevin Whately, Frances Barber. Morse investigates a psychotherapy center in Italy. (CC)						
11	SHOW	(15) ••• "CrisisCross" (1992, Drama) Goldie Hawn, Arles Howard, James Garner. Personal problems plague an innocent 12-year-old. R	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (CC)	The New Thing House: "Inauguration Day: Over the Hill" The White House moves closer to a military action. (CC)	Dominic Dune: "Power, Privilege & Justice" Ted Dune's a bounty hunter captures fugitive Andrew Lander. (CC)	Journeys to the Ends of the Earth: The Gardam Mountains in Southeast Asia. (CC)	Inspector Morse: "The Death of the Self" (1992, Mystery) John Thaw, Kevin Whately, Frances Barber. Morse investigates a psychotherapy center in Italy. (CC)					
12	TMC	(15) ••• "CrisisCross" (1992, Drama) Goldie Hawn, Arles Howard, James Garner. Personal problems plague an innocent 12-year-old. R	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (CC)	The New Thing House: "Inauguration Day: Over the Hill" The White House moves closer to a military action. (CC)	Dominic Dune: "Power, Privilege & Justice" Ted Dune's a bounty hunter captures fugitive Andrew Lander. (CC)	Journeys to the Ends of the Earth: The Gardam Mountains in Southeast Asia. (CC)	Inspector Morse: "The Death of the Self" (1992, Mystery) John Thaw, Kevin Whately, Frances Barber. Morse investigates a psychotherapy center in Italy. (CC)					
13	PBS	Clifford the Big Red Dog Movie: "Clifford Makes a Giant" Clifford makes a giant of himself. (EB) (CC) (DVS)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (CC)	The New Thing House: "Inauguration Day: Over the Hill" The White House moves closer to a military action. (CC)	Dominic Dune: "Power, Privilege & Justice" Ted Dune's a bounty hunter captures fugitive Andrew Lander. (CC)	Journeys to the Ends of the Earth: The Gardam Mountains in Southeast Asia. (CC)	Inspector Morse: "The Death of the Self" (1992, Mystery) John Thaw, Kevin Whately, Frances Barber. Morse investigates a psychotherapy center in Italy. (CC)					
14	SHOW	(15) ••• "Standing in the Shadows of Motown" (2002) Narrated by Andre Braugher. The story of the band, The Funk Brothers. PG (CC)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (CC)	The New Thing House: "Inauguration Day: Over the Hill" The White House moves closer to a military action. (CC)	Dominic Dune: "Power, Privilege & Justice" Ted Dune's a bounty hunter captures fugitive Andrew Lander. (CC)	Journeys to the Ends of the Earth: The Gardam Mountains in Southeast Asia. (CC)	Inspector Morse: "The Death of the Self" (1992, Mystery) John Thaw, Kevin Whately, Frances Barber. Morse investigates a psychotherapy center in Italy. (CC)					
15	AE	City Confidential: "Charlotte: Panther on the Run" A football player is linked to the murder of his girlfriend. (CC)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (CC)	The New Thing House: "Inauguration Day: Over the Hill" The White House moves closer to a military action. (CC)	Dominic Dune: "Power, Privilege & Justice" Ted Dune's a bounty hunter captures fugitive Andrew Lander. (CC)	Journeys to the Ends of the Earth: The Gardam Mountains in Southeast Asia. (CC)	Inspector Morse: "The Death of the Self" (1992, Mystery) John Thaw, Kevin Whately, Frances Barber. Morse investigates a psychotherapy center in Italy. (CC)					
16	DISC	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
17	TCF	(6:50) Maale-ala Mo Kaya	Insider	Dong Puno Live	Kumusta Kabyang			(4:40) Masayang Tanghal Bayan			(1:10) Sarah... (4:40) Mangarap Ka Princess	
18	CNN+	Larry King Live (CC)	CNN World News	World Sport	Business International	Asia Tonight	Biz Asia	CNN World News	World Report	Biz Asia	Business International	
19	GOLF	•Scandinavian Masters Highlights	•Inside the PGA Tour	•Playing Lessons From the Pros	•Golf Academy Live: Dana Quigley and Jim McLean.	•Golf Channel Academy	•Golf Central	•European PGA Golf Scandinavian Masters - First Round From Malmo, Sweden. (Live)				
20	TLC	Clean Sweep: "Foster Fix-Up" Combines two home offices. (CC)	A Fix: "New Family Style" A husband tries to move his wife's wants to remodel. (CC)	Overhaul!	Overhaul!	Overhaul!	Overhaul!	Overhaul!	Overhaul!	Overhaul!	Overhaul!	Overhaul!
21	TOON	Samurai Jack	Dexter's Laboratory	Courage the Cowardly Dog	Justice League	Powerpuff Girls	Cartoon Cartoon	Cartoon shorts.	2 Stupid Dogs	I Am Weasel	What a Cartoon Show	Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!
22	ANPL	The Crocodile Hunter: "Furry Outings" Steve's encounters with wildlife. (CC)	The Planet's Funniest Animals	The Planet's Funniest Animals	The Planet's Funniest Animals	Amazing Animal Videos	Deer and bird rescues. (CC)	Growing Up... "Chester" A rancher and her dog raise three cheetah cubs. (CC)	Animal Cops: Houston Four black bears must be moved from a roadside zoo to a shelter. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos	Deer and bird rescues. (CC)	
23	COM	Late Night Queen Latifah, Al G. the Roots. (CC)	The Daily Show	Crossballs (N)	Spoke Live. (CC)	Planet Wild	Shores of Silence: "White Sharks in the Night" A shark attacks a boat. (CC)	South Park Church: "The Church of the Holy Mackerel" (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect (N) (CC)	The Daily Show with Crossballs (N) (CC)		
24	NCG+	Demolition Squad: "Fury Chymies" A demolition team takes on a house. (CC)	Storm Stories: "A storm is slammed by the winds." (CC)	Toyota World: "The World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	Planet Wild	Shores of Silence: "White Sharks in the Night" A shark attacks a boat. (CC)	South Park Church: "The Church of the Holy Mackerel" (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect (N) (CC)	The Daily Show with Crossballs (N) (CC)			
25	SPKE	Real TV	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	Planet Wild	Shores of Silence: "White Sharks in the Night" A shark attacks a boat. (CC)	South Park Church: "The Church of the Holy Mackerel" (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect (N) (CC)	The Daily Show with Crossballs (N) (CC)				
26	FOX	Fame (CC)	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date
27	BET	106 & Park: "BET's Top 10 Live" Top 10 Countdown?	BET.com Countdown	BET.com Countdown	BET.com Countdown	BET.com Countdown	BET.com Countdown	BET.com Countdown	BET.com Countdown	BET.com Countdown	BET.com Countdown	BET.com Countdown
28	COURT	NYPD Blue: "Thick Skin" Simone contends with complications from his inheritance. (CC)	Cops: "Nightline" A dog sting operation. (CC)	Cops: "Nightline" A dog sting operation. (CC)	Cops: "Nightline" A dog sting operation. (CC)	Cops: "Nightline" A dog sting operation. (CC)	Cops: "Nightline" A dog sting operation. (CC)	Cops: "Nightline" A dog sting operation. (CC)	Cops: "Nightline" A dog sting operation. (CC)	Cops: "Nightline" A dog sting operation. (CC)	Cops: "Nightline" A dog sting operation. (CC)	Cops: "Nightline" A dog sting operation. (CC)
29	STR-UL	Baywatch (CC)	The Simpsons	Cheers (CC)	Star News	Just Shoot Me	Race to the Altar (CC)	Buffy the Vampire Slayer (CC)	Angel (CC)			
30	LIFE	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)	The Golden Girls: "A candidate's daughter." (CC)
31	ABC/AFN	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)	Full House: "Jesse and Joey visit a friend." (CC)
32	HIST	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)	The Big House: "Alcatraz: The history of Alcatraz." (CC)
33	STW/H	(8:45) ••• "Dead Heat" (2002, Comedy) Kiefer Sutherland, Anthony LaPaglia, Ralph Macchio. A car chase. (CC)	(15) ••• "The Hot Chick" (2002, Comedy) Rachel McAdams, Robert Downey Jr. A cheerleader and a man switch bodies via magic earrings. (CC)	(15) ••• "The Hot Chick" (2002, Comedy) Rachel McAdams, Robert Downey Jr. A cheerleader and a man switch bodies via magic earrings. (CC)	(15) ••• "The Hot Chick" (2002, Comedy) Rachel McAdams, Robert Downey Jr. A cheerleader and a man switch bodies via magic earrings. (CC)	(15) ••• "The Hot Chick" (2002, Comedy) Rachel McAdams, Robert Downey Jr. A cheerleader and a man switch bodies via magic earrings. (CC)	(15) ••• "The Hot Chick" (2002, Comedy) Rachel McAdams, Robert Downey Jr. A cheerleader and a man switch bodies via magic earrings. (CC)	(15) ••• "The Hot Chick" (2002, Comedy) Rachel McAdams, Robert Downey Jr. A cheerleader and a man switch bodies via magic earrings. (CC)	(15) ••• "The Hot Chick" (2002, Comedy) Rachel McAdams, Robert Downey Jr. A cheerleader and a man switch bodies via magic earrings. (CC)	(15) ••• "The Hot Chick" (2002, Comedy) Rachel McAdams, Robert Downey Jr. A cheerleader and a man switch bodies via magic earrings. (CC)	(15) ••• "The Hot Chick" (2002, Comedy) Rachel McAdams, Robert Downey Jr. A cheerleader and a man switch bodies via magic earrings. (CC)	(15) ••• "The Hot Chick" (2002, Comedy) Rachel McAdams, Robert Downey Jr. A cheerleader and a man switch bodies via magic earrings. (CC)
34	ADV I	True Life: "I'm Obsessed" Young people deal with problems caused by obesity. (CC)	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect
35	MTV	True Life: "I'm Obsessed" Young people deal with problems caused by obesity. (CC)	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect	Direct Effect
36	NICK	"Plugs/SpongeBob SquarePants"	"Juice: 'The Wild Thornberrys'"	"Juice: 'The Wild Thornberrys'"	"Juice: 'The Wild Thornberrys'"	"Juice: 'The Wild Thornberrys'"	"Juice: 'The Wild Thornberrys'"	"Juice: 'The Wild Thornberrys'"	"Juice: 'The Wild Thornberrys'"	"Juice: 'The Wild Thornberrys'"	"Juice: 'The Wild Thornberrys'"	"Juice: 'The Wild Thornberrys'"

JAPAN TV

Morning
6:45 Between the Lions (3)
7:30 Disney (12)
Afternoon
1:30 US Movie (1994) The Mask (2:00) (12)
5:50 News (6)
Evening
7:00 NHR News (1)
7:30 Japan Pop Ball: Yomuri Giants vs. Hiroshima Carp (4)
7:50 Soccer: Dream Match - Jeff United Ichihara vs. Real Madrid (8)
8:50 Fantasy Family (4)
9:00 US Movie (1973): The Exorcist (15:42)
9:00 Italian Cooking (42)
10:00 News (1)
12:10 RL Series (4)
1:15 Football CX (8)
2:10 Kang Fu (4)
4:00 World Folk Music: India (1:17)

JAPAN TV-B57

Morning
6:00 Top News from Around the World
6:30 Top News from Around the World
7:00 Top News from Around the World
7:30 Top News from Around the World
8:00 MLB: New York Yankees vs. Toronto Blue Jays (11:00)
11:00 Japan Live: Handcraft Clock (7)
Afternoon
12:00 CNN News
1:00 Japan Live: Exchanging Houses: Enjo's Story (1:00)
1:30 ABC News
2:00 Japan Live: Exchanging Houses: Enjo's Story (1:00)
2:30 CNN News
3:00 Japan Live: Exchanging Houses: Enjo's Story (1:00)
Evening
6:00 Japan Pop Ball: Hanshin Tigers vs. Chunichi Dragons
6:30 FIFA: History of Soccer (1) (1:1)
10:00 ML Highlights
11:00 RS News
11:30 Economic News

12:15 MotoGP 9th Round, British GP (1)
1:45 MLB Movie (2002): Zoolander (1:35)
2:05 Asian News
2:30 Top News from Around the World
3:00 PBS NewsHour (7)
5:00 Top News from Around the World

JAPAN TV-B511

Morning
6:00 Top News from Around the World
Afternoon
12:00 Japan Live: Exchanging Houses: Enjo's Story (1:00)
1:30 ABC News
2:00 Japan Live: Exchanging Houses: Enjo's Story (1:00)
2:30 CNN News
3:00 Japan Live: Exchanging Houses: Enjo's Story (1:00)
Evening
6:00 Japan Pop Ball: Hanshin Tigers vs. Chunichi Dragons
6:30 FIFA: History of Soccer (1) (1:1)
10:00 ML Highlights
11:00 RS News
11:30 Economic News

WOWOW

Morning
6:00 Wake Up
7:00 Fashion Wednesday
7:30 Top Choice
9:00 Pure Music

7:30 TV Series: Friends
8:30 100 Choice
9:30 100 Choice
11:20 TV Series: The Red Phone: Mission 1
Afternoon
12:00 Japan Live: Exchanging Houses: Enjo's Story (1:00)
1:30 Top News from Around the World
2:00 Top News from Around the World
2:30 Top News from Around the World
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11:30 Top News from Around the World

MTV

Morning
6:00 Wake Up
7:00 Fashion Wednesday
7:30 Top Choice
9:00 Pure Music

10:00 Choice Selection
10:30 100 Choice
11:20 Top Choice
12:00 Live: Coldplay
12:30 Live: Coldplay
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Reservists pay for pay woes

It's too bad 95 percent of the deployed reservists are having pay problems, as we were beginning to think these were an isolated issue with the Arizona National Guard. Every Arizona soldier deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom II was paid the wrong basic allowance for substance rate from December through around April, resulting in a total overpayment of about \$40 per soldier.

Rather than collect the \$40 from each soldier's pay when the overpayment was identified, the wizards at the Defense Finance and Accounting Service decided it was necessary to collect five months' worth of BAS out of a single pay period.

Some were fortunate and received a credit for BAS at the correct rate during the same pay period it was deducted; others received substantially less pay and had a hardship created for their families back home. Random soldiers received a \$840 casual pay a month after, creating another debt for DFAS to collect and sinking the affected soldiers deeper and deeper.

Our S-1 has been working adamantly with the local finance office, DFAS and our unit to get our issues corrected, as probably 80 percent of our soldiers are still owed a significant amount of money due to their collective screw-ups.

It concerns me that people who are supposed to be specialists and subject-matter

Tell us what you think

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ter experts in the finance field can't resolve a simple matter such as collecting a \$40 debt without causing a soldier to receive a dreaded "no pay due." Soldiers have had to bear the consequences of their mistakes, to include the debt created by a casual pay not even requested.

Hopefully someone will be held accountable for their lack of focus and be looking for a new job, not in finance.

Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Blake

Tallit Air Base, Iraq

Suit alone won't slow global warming

The Philadelphia Inquirer
New York's crusading attorney general, Eliot Spitzer, is at it again. This time he's leading a New York City and eight states in a lawsuit against five of the nation's largest power companies in an attempt to slow global warming.

The companies annually emit 10 percent of the United States' carbon dioxide, a gas that contributes to global warming. The lawsuit filed Wednesday doesn't seek monetary damages. Instead, it asks a New York Federal judge to set yearly emissions reductions from the companies' 174 fossil-fuel-burning plants.

The lawsuit is a bold response to the Bush administration's head-in-the-sand approach to global warming. But courts are the wrong avenue for action.

To address global warming, the United States needs a broad range of technological solutions; strong domestic public policy, including tax incentives, efficiency standards, renewable energy mandates, and market-based approaches; and a global framework that moves beyond the Kyoto Protocol. Such action would require a president truly engaged on the topic.

Spitzer's coalition is correct that the dangers are real. Health hazards from global warming include asthma, heartstroke and insect-borne disease. The landscape faces alteration through loss of coastline, beaches, tidal wetlands and salt marshes. A fall-flood in mountain snowmelt could jeopardize water supply. Shifts in temperature could endanger crops or forests. Species that can't adapt could go extinct.

Scientists cannot pinpoint when and where these changes will occur. But that's no reason for inaction. The Bush administration now acknowledges human culpability in climate change. Carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse" gases from man-made sources are causing average global temperatures to rise.

While the Bush administration continues to study the topic, Congress should pass the Climate Stewardship Act, sponsored by Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn. It's a sensible, market-based start to reducing emissions in the manufacturing, commercial and electric utility sectors of the economy.

The National Governors' Association should put global warming atop its agenda. More than 40 states have some kind of

Don't assume Bush will win

Concerning the June 16 letter "Don't attack the system" when Sgt. Daniel M. Goldens says that "When Bush leaves office, in 2009, he will ..." This statement is incorrect. Americans are showing their opinion about the current president. Whether he was elected or appointed by judges, the polls clearly hint that John Kerry will take the helm in 2005, and if Kerry is able to rectify the mess and the culture of hatred created in the last four years then "it will be President Kerry in 2009, who will continue."

Polis have always shown to be almost accurate and reflect prevailing opinion, although underdogs and expectant losing candidates always claim polls are incorrect. Is the letter writer hoping for that rare case?

I am not a registered Democrat or Republican. The reason I am unaffiliated is because I have seen that no matter who comes to the White House, we cannot keep all the promises made during the campaign.

Haven't you noticed President Bush hesitating at the news conferences and thinking for a few seconds before answering his words? Hasn't it been obvious that he is trying to say something but then controls himself because he has been reprimanded by his advisers for saying the wrong things? Haven't you noticed that there is not much difference between our current president and Vice President Dan Quayle under the senior President Bush?

Nabeel Kareem

Camp Victory North, Iraq

climate party; they should share their ideas.

The discussion leader should be Republican Col. Mitt Romney of Massachusetts, which adopted a wide-ranging plan last spring. Beyond setting ambitious goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2020, Massachusetts is doing everything from ridding its fleet of gas-guzzling SUVs to rethinking where to build schools to planting carbon-dioxide-absorbing trees.

(www.mass.gov/doc/

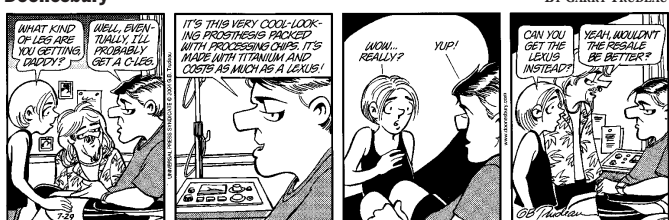
MAClimateProtectionPlan.pdf.)

The Bush administration generally puts too much faith in voluntary actions of private industry, but on global warming, many companies, including some named in the Spitzer lawsuit, have, in fact, stepped up. They're finding energy efficiencies, reducing emissions and developing new technologies. Their research must continue and will need government support. Overcoming global warming may take technological advances akin to the Industrial Revolution.

Spitzer and his fellow plaintiffs are right that the Bush administration has abdicated its responsibility to lead the fight against global warming. Fortunately, others can pick up the slack.

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury



OPINION

Panel wise to avoid playing 9/11 blame game

After so much partisan rancor on the subject, it is pleasant to note that the 9/11 commission report was unanimous, betraying no signs of intransigent warfare, sensible and, in some instances, containing some notably sobering revelations.

Philip Terzian



The Bush administration, which had been prepared for a hit on the eve of the Democratic National Convention, should feel relieved. While the commission is critical of federal policies and practices, it recognizes one obvious truth: that if any "blame" attaches to officials in government, it can fairly be assigned to all officials.

Both the Bush and Clinton white houses failed to grasp the magnitude of the danger posed by al-Qaida. If Bush missed gathering signals in the summer of 2001, Clinton brushed off cataclysmic events in the 1990s.

Yet their failure was a failure (in the panel's word) of imagination, not indolence or deception. While everyone recognized that al-Qaida was lethal, and that terrorist attacks are possible, no one could foresee Osama bin Laden's audacious plan. As with so many comparable calamities in history, it took a catastrophe to concentrate our attention.

So now what? To begin with, the panel reiterates what should be common knowledge: that the war against terrorism is serious business, and that the threat to the United States (and our allies) is permanent.

The problem is that the sense of national resolve in the wake of 9/11 has dissipated. That is partly the fault of President Bush, who has issued mixed signals of defiance

and undue confidence; but is largely caused by the passage of time, the absence of subsequent domestic attacks and politics as usual. Success, in that sense, has bred complacency.

Michael Moore's popular movie posits the idea that the war on terrorism is largely an invention to benefit the business interests of the Bush family, its corporate friends and Saudi allies. But instead of turning away from Moore in horror, the Democrats, sensing opportunity, have embraced his cynical showmanship. Anybody whose hatred of George W. Bush prompts them to deplore the destruction of the Taliban — which, among other things, harbored Osama bin Laden — should ponder their priorities. The commission warns against this dangerous tendency. Accusing political opponents of bad faith will only benefit the genuine bad guys.

Can reforms make any difference? It is possible. White House initiatives, such as creation of a Department of Homeland Security and the much-maligned Patriot Act, have closed any number of perilous loopholes and have made the terrorists' work much harder. It is disheartening to observe the extent to which intelligence agencies had inklings of al-Qaida's plans.

Yet even if those inklings had led to certainty, and the series of dots been connected, the panel's conclusion is noteworthy: In the pre-9/11 world, the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon could not have been prevented.

For the panelists, the solution to this bureaucratic mess is simple: Combine all intelligence-gathering under one umbrella, presided over by a Cabinet-level director of national intelligence. This is consistent with the history of government reform, but it's no guarantee of success. Scooping disparate services and agencies into one big hot fudge sundae has the virtue of "consolidation" and efficiency. But that is precisely what was



done in 1947 when the Central Intelligence Agency was created. The problem that made 9/11 possible — the legislative wall that prevents sharing of foreign and domestic intelligence — is the knot to be untied. Concerns about J. Edgar Hoover's conduct in the 1960s gave al-Qaida the opening it needed in 2001.

Which leads, as it must, to a fundamental question: How can we fight a war against terrorism and remain consistent with democratic values? The Bush administration has grappled with this conundrum, with mixed success. It has not been assisted by a political opposition that confuses defending the national security with deliberate assaults on constitutional rights. And no matter who is president next year, the challenge of fighting a

clandestine enemy isn't easy for an open society of nearly 300 million people. Every American wants life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness and absolute safety from terrorists eager to sacrifice themselves.

One self-evident course, as the panel recommends, is to pursue policies that undermine the origins of terrorism: to fight the ideas and conditions that give rise to anti-Americanism, and to promote the values of education and democracy as a practical alternative to radical violence.

But the 9/11 commission has an equally important message. There is no mistaking the nature of the struggle: a clash of ideals, and a military threat, as serious and sobering as the crater at Ground Zero.

Philip Terzian is a columnist for The Providence (R.I.) Journal.

Olympic planners have taken Munich lessons to heart

Chicago Tribune

Much of the lead-up to the Summer Olympics in Athens has focused on the supposed inability of Greece to get its act together. Typical were the comments of British anti-terrorist consultants training journalists for the Games, who wined the sports writers to prepare for the worst, because "Greece and security don't really go in the same sentence."

Ever since Munich in 1972, when 11 Israelis died at the hands of Palestinian terrorists, the Olympics have occasioned enough military preparations to fight a small war. In the wake of Sept. 11, concerns about terrorism at the Olympics have only grown. Greece is spending a record \$1.5 billion on security for the summer Games, and it still can't get any respect.

How far the world has traveled in 32 years.

In the Munich Games, Germany saw an opportunity to bury its Nazi past. Any suggestion of a police state was strictly forbidden.

Spending on security was a pittance. Athletes who sneaked out of their compound for a night on the town merely hopped back over the wall when the time came to sneak back in.

That's how the Palestinians who targeted the Israeli team got inside, supposedly assisted by Americans who mistook them for fellow athletes. The terrorists shot two hostages at the start of a prolonged standoff, and the rest of the hostages and five of the eight terrorists died later amid a firefight with German police.

No question, the Olympics in Greece present an inviting target for terrorists seeking a world stage. Yet there is also the risk that an event dedicated to bringing the world together through sportsmanship can lose its meaning if martial law prevails over it.

The much-maligned Greeks just may get the balance right. Months ago, the Congressional Research Service concluded that the Greeks were indeed taking their security obligations seriously. They plan to deploy 50,000 soldiers and police. Overcoming sovereignty concerns, they have worked closely with the United States and other high-risk nations.

The Greeks will allow 400 armed U.S. servicemen to watch over the Games, under the auspices of NATO. This extraordinary concession should go a long way to relieve anxieties about Greek preparedness.

So far, though, it appears that the troops will protect only diplomats and VIPs. Apparently there is still a question as to whether U.S. troops will guard the American athletes while they're in Greece. If that's the U.S. demand, Greece should recognize that those athletes represent too highly symbolic a target to take any risks with their safety.

The United States, in turn, would be wise to recognize that it doesn't want its security forces to provoke an unnecessary incident.

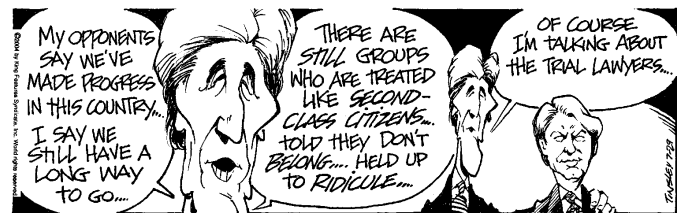
It should school its troops in Greek language and customs. In Athens, boisterous street demonstrations occur routinely. Motor scooter drivers steer onto the sidewalks to evade traffic.

The threat of terrorism has, unfortunately, already made an impact on these Games, from the extraordinary cost for security to the apparent reluctance of many tourists to attend the Games in person.

But the Games will go on, and Greece, the United States and other nations will have the chance to show that such an event can be staged safely, without turning the sporting fields into something that resembles a battlefield.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



New trial for arson

PA PHILADELPHIA — A federal appeals court ordered a new trial Wednesday for a man accused of arson and weapons charges, ruling that prosecutors improperly inflamed a jury by calling him a terrorist a day before the first anniversary of the 2001 attacks.

The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ordered a new trial for Darick Moore, who is accused of setting a house fire in York in 2001 that injured a 13-year-old boy and his father.

Witnesses testified at Moore's 2007 trial that he beat his ex-girlfriend, injured her son, then attacked a 13-year-old girl who was used to sell drugs for him.

A federal prosecutor concluded the case by telling jurors that "there are very different kinds of terrorists, and I think this defendant is one of them."

Alligator mauls woman

FL SANIBEL — A 12-foot alligator attacked a landscaper behind an island home, dragging her into a pond before a neighbor and police officers yanked the woman from the animal's jaws.

"It was kind of a tug-of-war," said the neighbor, Jim Anholt.

Part of Jamie Melsiek's right arm had to be amputated later during six hours of surgery. She also was severely bitten on her buttocks and thighs, but doctors believe she will walk again, her family said. She remained in critical condition.

Melsiek, 54, was trimming a tree when the alligator attacked. Rescuers struggled for about five minutes to pull Melsiek from the pond. When she came free, medical workers began treating her on the shore. Police shot the alligator in the head, killing it. It took six men to lift the animal to shore.

Masseur arrested

CA ALAMO — A 35-year-old male massage therapist was arrested on suspicion of sexually violating a female client at a skin care salon, authorities said.

Philip Clark was arrested on suspicion of oral copulation after the alleged victim came forward following the incident, according to a sheriff's spokesman.

Clark is not a licensed massage therapist, and Judy's is not a legal massage parlor, the spokesman said. Clark, 35, had worked at Judy's for about seven months and had also been employed at other locations.

Teacher hides camera

NJ MIDDLETOWN — A long-time piano teacher is accused of hiding "spy-sized" cameras in his bathroom to make hundreds of videotapes of students and others using his toilet, police said Thursday.

George Johnson, 68, was arrested July 1.

Johnson, a piano teacher for 40 years who had two prior convictions for sex-related crimes, taped students and their parents, guardians, drivers and siblings, authorities said. Those identified range in age from 6 to 72, police said.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

The charges against him include wiretapping, allowing a juvenile to be photographed in a sexual position, and observation of sexual contact. So far, police have determined that 22 of the identified people on the 353 tapes viewed so far are under 13. The alleged victims who have identified themselves say the oldest tapes date back four years.

Man found dead on couch

OH MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS — A man was found dead on a couch in a hospital lounge, and a nurse told police that nobody had checked on him for at least 17 hours before he appeared to be asleep.

Robert F. Johnson, 55, who had emphysema, was found Thursday at Southwest General Health Center, police said. It was not clear when he died; an autopsy was planned.

Police Chief John Maddox said Johnson probably had been dead for several hours and most likely died of natural causes.

Famous fish shop closes

TX AUSTIN — The Austin Angler, a fly fishing shop made famous when it was featured in a Visa credit card commercial, is closing after more than two decades in business.

The shop in downtown Austin was portrayed as a quirky little business that emphatically did not



Checking for damage
Peach farmer Hank Passi looks at a dead branch caused by last month's 17-year invasion of cicada on one of his peach trees at his Eagle's Roost Farm in orchards in North East, Md.

take American Express. The ad first aired during the 1985 Super Bowl.

Owner Larry Sunderland said that after surviving three economic slumps, the shop couldn't compete with the new technology of retailing. The shop is closing July 31.

"Larry didn't run the place to make money; he did it because he loved the place, like I did," said Robert McCurdy, who started the business in late 1980.

69 years for killing wife

NJ NEW BRUNSWICK — A man has been sentenced to 69 years in prison for beating his wife to death with a sledgehammer and a board spiked with nails.

Charles Rashid, 33, who was convicted of murder in May, must serve more than 55 years before he will be eligible for parole.

Prosecutors said Rashid used a short handled-sledgehammer to crush Orquidea Tejada-Rashid's skull in their kitchen while their 2-year-old son watched "Elmo" videotapes in an upstairs bedroom of their home in Piscataway.

In a videotaped confession, Rashid said he "just snapped" while his wife was verbally attacking him.

At his trial, his lawyer used a diminished capacity psychiatric defense.

Prosecutors said Rashid tried to make Tejada-Rashid's October 2001 death look like a carjacking by leaving her body near a trash bin and then abandoning her still-running car about two blocks away. He filed a missing-person report with police the next day.

Smuggling scam

IL CHICAGO — Four city residents were charged in a scheme to smuggle South American children into the United States with fraudulent passports, authorities said. U.S. parents were allegedly paid \$300 to obtain authentic passports for their children and substitute photos of the smuggled children. One mother said she was told she could help sick children secure medical treatment.

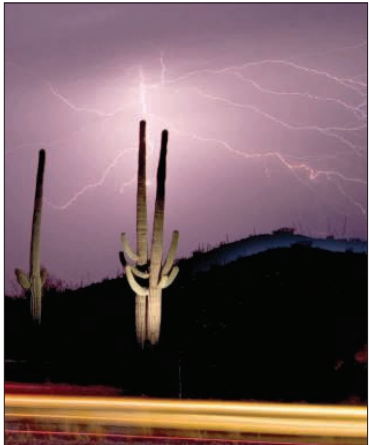
Online business

CT HARTFORD — Connecticut's largest business lobbying group has gone online to promote "business-friendly" political candidates. The Connecticut Business and Industry Association's new site, www.ctbizvotes.com, is aimed at informing and motivating those involved in business to vote. The site also will list key votes by members of the General Assembly and campaign finance information.

Full story on civil rights

AR LITTLE ROCK — State tourism officials unveiled a publication highlighting Arkansas' civil rights heritage, both the good and the bad. The brochure covers race riots in the 1960s and the Little Rock Central High School desegregation crisis in 1957.

It also mentions a college commencement address by Martin Luther King Jr. and the naming of Maya Angelou, a Stamps native, as poet laureate.



Fire in the sky

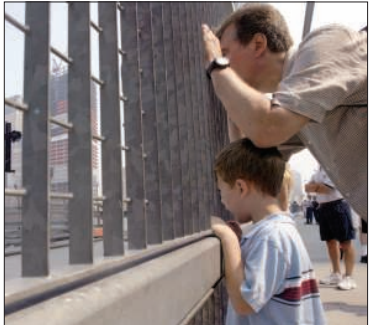
Lightning streaks across the night sky as a thunderstorm moves through the area.

West of Tucson, Ariz.



Knee-deep

Gus Lopez tries to rescue his car from a flooded street in East Rutherford, N.J. after getting stuck after leaving work.



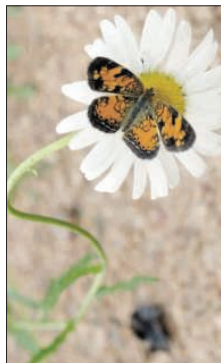
Crimes after the progress

Stephen Hodorowski, right, and his son David Hodorowski, 5, view construction at the site of the World Trade Center in New York.



Row, row, row your boat

Rowboats with swimmers in tow begin the Around the Island Marathon Swim off Absecon Island in Atlantic City, N.J.



Taking a break

A butterfly rests on a daisy in the woods in rural Marathon County, Wis.



Reading up Roshni Patel of New York looks at a copy of "The 9/11 Commission Report" at a Borders bookstore in New York.

Rocket's red glare

A fireworks display is held in front of the USS Reagan, the Navy's newest aircraft carrier, in San Diego.

Testimony tossed

FL FORT LAUDERDALE — A judge Friday threw out the taped confession of a teenager who said she wrapped underwear around her newborn's neck, put him in a backpack and threw him in a canal.

Defense and prosecution lawyers said the first-degree murder case against Aimee Lee Weiss, now 20, hinges on the confession she made when she was 17.

The confession was thrown out because a higher court had ruled the Miranda rights warning form she signed was unconstitutional. Weiss was charged with killing her baby just after giving birth in her bathroom at home in March 2001. She says the boy was stillborn after a secret pregnancy, and her lawyer said Friday she discarded the body in a panic.

Street performance suit

MA BOSTON — A group of about 30 musicians and other performers has sued Boston's police and parks departments to challenge the constitutionality of a 19th century law that restricts street performances.

"Artists have been arrested and threatened with arrest for 30 years. I'm tired of it," said Stephen Baird, a musician from the city's Jamaica Plain neighborhood who says he was ordered by a park ranger earlier this week to stop playing on Boston Common.

Baird says he has a musician's license from the city police department, but was told he needed another permit from the city's Parks and Recreation Department. But they told him they don't issue such permits to musicians.

The case has been taken up pro bono by the Boston law firm of Testa, Hurwitz & Thibault, which filed suit in U.S. District Court earlier this week to challenge the constitutionality of the city ordinance and police regulation.

Coke distributor jailed

TX SAN ANTONIO — A supervisor in the Alejandro Noe Castillon drug organization was sentenced to life in prison Thursday for distributing more than 3,100 pounds of cocaine.

Jesse Salazar Ramirez of San Antonio was convicted in February of money laundering, conspiracy to distribute cocaine and two counts of possession with intent to distribute cocaine.

U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton said in a news release that U.S. District Judge Edward C. Prado noted during sentencing that Ramirez threatened a witness, provided perjured testimony and tried to intimidate a federal prosecutor with threats during the trial.

Ramirez spoke for three hours during the sentencing. He accused Prado of bias and federal officials of lying.

Fourteen others arrested in the drug operation, including Castillon, pleaded guilty. Castillon was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

Maggot milk man sues

VA NORFOLK — A man who says he was served maggot-contaminated milk at a Denny's restaurant in Virginia Beach is suing the chain for \$1 million.

Russell L. Long doesn't say in his claim whether he consumed

the milk, which he said he was served two years ago. His suit states, however, the experience continues to bother him physically and mentally.

Denny's denies the allegation but says in a cross-claim that if the milk did contain maggots, they must have come from the supplier.

A diploma 60 years later

VT BURLINGTON — Joseph "Al" Moreau has received his Burlington High School diploma nearly 60 years after war interrupted his education.

Moreau's daughter, Paula Lyon, watched with tears in her eyes as her father held up his diploma Friday. It was Lyon who learned, after reading a story in The Burlington Free Press, that all Vermont World War II veterans were eligible for diplomas.

In the spring of 1945, the lanky Burlington High School senior chose the Navy over a diploma. Itching to see action during the waning days of World War II, Moreau and a couple of classmates founded the local recruiter on Church Street for weeks.

With less than a month to go before graduation, Moreau received the go-ahead to enlist. He left the safety of his house on Grove Street for an aircraft carrier in the Marshall Islands.

Opium discovery

CA SANTA CLARA — Nearly 20,000 illegal opium poppies were found growing among sunflowers in Santa Clara County, Calif., this week, authorities said.

No arrests have been made, and the case is being investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration along with the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department, said DEA spokesman Richard Meyer.

Opium poppies can't be grown without a license issued by the DEA.

The owner of the property said he had leased the land to farm workers who in turn subleased it — without permission — to a flower grower, according to the San Francisco Chronicle.

Burning down the house

WA AUBURN — A 3-year-old child playing with matches was blamed for a fire that caused an estimated \$40,000 damage to an Auburn, Wash., duplex.

Auburn firefighters were called to the duplex and put out the blaze within 15 minutes. No one was injured, but a man, woman and child in one unit, as well as a woman who lived in the other unit of the duplex, will have to find temporary shelter.

Wide rabies exposure

RI PROVIDENCE — As many as fifty people may have been exposed to a baby raccoon with rabies that was kept at the East Providence Animal Shelter, health officials said Thursday.

The state Department of Health said six raccoons had been kept in a pen at the shelter since July 1. One became ill and tested positive for rabies, while the other five have tested negative.

The shelter was ordered closed Wednesday night and will remain closed until further notice.

Photos and stories from wire reports

Horoscope

The sun and Venus are in a trying position that could cause some insecurity to rise up in us, especially on the topic of love. You may even have paranoid thoughts about the reasons someone loves you or the motivation people have for getting close to you. Finances could also suffer from a dose of doubt. Use your logical mind to get centered.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 29). Show the world what you're got! You're well received this year, and you'll find many ways to use your talents. Singles meet prospects in August and start a relationship with a real future.

Money luck has to do with trying something new in September. If you properly educate yourself, you can't lose. Cancer and Pisces are fabulous love prospects.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's much to keep straight, and you've got the logical mind to maintain order. But don't be so fixated on practical matters that you lose your joy and creativity — without those, almost everything you do is in fact impractical.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're a bit like the goose that lays golden eggs now, and you could find that many people would love to "steal" you away. Beware of people who are only interested in what you can do for them and aren't interested in giving back.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It's a complex web you have, Gemini. Forget about the bottom-line results now because there are so many contributing factors that it's impossible to make an accurate projection. Go by how you feel.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You go out of your way to get that feeling of love and acceptance.

Once you're convinced that this basic need is met, you thrive. Being able to rid yourself of nagging worries is key. Most of what you fear is unreal anyway.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's a potential day. Being around hard-working people will make you more productive than ever. Your

competitive instinct is fierce. You rise to the level of your competition, even if you have no idea what you're doing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've got major mojo, which you can use to influence an impossible situation. On days like this, just postulating is enough to make it so — imagine you're like the rainmaker who achieves by being in harmony with the elements.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Nothing stresses you out. You're able to use your sense of humor to turn every snafu into an entertaining story for your friends. You've got tons of those these days. Keep on laughing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're not as interested in self-improvement as you are in allowing others to improve you — after all, why not leave it to the professionals? Gather opinions, and have a blast re-creating yourself inside and out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 22). There's luck in the realm of politics. You are in a position to take a stand, and many will listen — you've got real presence, poise and an interesting take on the same old message. Romance develops at lightning speed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 19). The only way to make progress is to first get organized. Haphazard piles, unsorted files and silly clutter can be sorted through completely by tomorrow if you just do it. When it gets difficult, enlist a friend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Surprises cause you to act quickly, and you can be sure your destiny is being fulfilled. Approach new relationship with caution. The first 15 minutes determine how the rest of it goes. Tonight, you've got the healing touch.

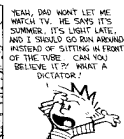
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If you find yourself waiting around for someone to call you back, get busy. The more you can do to prove to yourself that you don't need someone, the more they'll feel drawn to you. Pop culture influences your work.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



Better or Worse



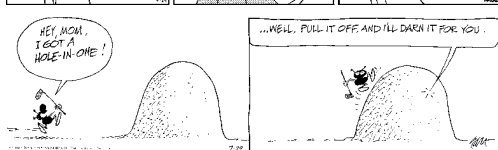
Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Bites



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13				14	
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		21			22	23				
24	25	26			27			28	29	30
31					32				33	
34			35		36				37	
			38		39			40		
41	42						43		44	45
46										
47				48	49	50				
51				52					53	
54				55					56	

Across

- 1 Factor in Einstein's equation
5 Pack down
9 Possesses
12 1999 Tom Petty album
13 Bread spread
14 Falstaff's quench
15 Dairy purchase
17 "— and Order"
18 Ed Norton's workplace
19 syllable
21 Mom
22 Pentateuch
24 Doe or Bull
27 Handle roughly
28 Blunder
31 In the style of
32 Earlier than
33 One (Pref.)
34 Shri! bark
36 Put in with
37 "Jurassic Park" critter
38 Persnickety
40 Smart remark?
41 Phi Beta —
43 Easily assembled
47 Inventor Whitney
48 Staff symbol
51 47-Across' invention
52 Modern-day money
53 Jog

Down

- 1 Stable area
2 The run
3 Third place, at
4 Grave
5 — River, N.J.
6 Will Smith biopic
7 Torme or Tillis
8 Texas Hold 'Em, e.g.
9 Thirty minutes
10 Jai follower
11 Mended
12 Pitching stat
13 Trail the pack
22 Off schedule
23 Unpaid
24 Comic Leno
25 Bullring bravo
26 Diminutive
27 Pod denizens
29 Inseparable
30 Make like new
35 Litter member
37 Score
39 Created dust?
40 Raw rock
41 Frat party items
42 Sam Shepard's "— of the Mind"
43 Story line
44 — song (cheaply)
45 Teeny bit
46 Plays the lottery
49 Shade
50 Ball

Answer to Previous Puzzle

P	A	P	A	B	U	S	A	C	T	S
U	P	O	N	I	S	A	B	A	R	E
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F	R	E	S	C	O	A	T	O	N	E
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				C	O	R	N	A	L	E
E	N	I	G	M	A	R	A	V	A	G
D	I	V	E	S	U	R	V	I	V	A
E	L	A	N	A	T	E	C	O	R	K
R	E	L	Y	L	E	D	T	W	O	S

7-29

CRYPTOQUIP

MQY UCA OMUZZLJ UCA
NCLK LYNN VYGX XAKKZLJ
CL UCAQ SMLFU FGCKVYO?

OAZK UCAQOYGS!

Yesterday's Cryptquip: YOUR CHOICES ARE TO MEDITATE OR TAKE A DIP IN THE POOL. SO WILL YOU THINK OR SWIM?

Today's Cryptquip Clue: O equals S

Identity theft a common problem

Dear Abby: I want to respond to "Discredited," whose parent stole his (or her) identity and ordered credit card accounts using that false identity.

I investigate credit card fraud for one of the largest banks in the world. For parents to commit identity theft against their children is an increasing trend.

"Discredited" needs to contact the credit card companies as soon as possible and report the fraud. And "Discredited" should NOT put those cards, since that is often interpreted as acceptance of responsibility. Because she did not authorize the cards, they will most likely be removed from her credit report after completing some paperwork. She should also, as you advised, file a police report since many companies require one when reporting fraud.

If "Discredited" does not take action NOW, his/her credit will be affected for the rest of her

life. As a preventive measure, the three major credit reporting agencies should be alerted and a fraud alert placed, which will require lenders to contact "Discredited" at a specified phone number before extending credit.

— **Fraud Investigator in Tennessee**

Dear Abby



Dear Investigator: Thank you for your supportive and helpful letter.

Readers, if the mail I have received about this problem is any indication, ID theft and fraud have become so common that all of us should run a credit check on ourselves once a year to make sure we haven't been "cloned." Read on:

Dear Abby: "Discredited" wrote about one of her parents using her credit information. This is called family identity theft, and it is a far too common, yet frequently hidden occurrence that is not often discussed.

You rightly advised "Discredited" not to continue to be victimized or feel ashamed, and urged the writer to contact the police. However, given the cultural issues raised by this individual (who is Asian), your advice may have been oversimplified. In our experience at the Identity Theft Resource Center, many family ID theft victims could benefit from talking to an adviser about potential consequences to themselves and the thief before making such a difficult decision.

We work regularly with cases such as these, as well as those in which ID theft is used as a form of domestic violence. Our program is nonprofit, and victims are never charged for our time.

— **Linda Foley, Executive Director, ITIRC**

Dear Linda: Batten down the hatches, because you're going to be inundated. Readers, the Web site is www.idthefcenter.org.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet: <http://www.uspspress.com/dearabby> Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ORRIP

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BYLUR

DEECCA

BAMLOG

A: HIS " " " "

Yesterday's Jumbles: CROWN LAPEL KILLER FORAGE
Answer: What the musicians experienced in the stormy sea — ROCK AND ROLL

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Arginton



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Marriage strained by prejudices

Dear Annie: From the day my mother-in-law and I met, she disliked me because I came from a different religious and ethnic background.

She forbade her son to marry me, but he did anyway.

Even so, throughout our years of marriage, my husband refused to associate with any of my friends, family or co-workers, saying that his mother did not approve of them. He insisted that the only people we socialize with were his relatives.

A few years ago, his mom suddenly decided I was no longer to have contact with her or anyone else in the family. She insisted that her son divorce me. There was no particular reason for her decision. Of course, my husband stayed with me, but all of my contact with other family members was cut off because the relatives feared this woman's reaction. My husband continued to attend family functions without me, which caused many

Annie's Mailbox



heated arguments.

My mother-in-law died last year, and my husband now wants me to rejoin his family. I am a good person, warm and friendly, but frankly, I don't want to see these people after being treated unfairly for so long. Should I forgive and forget?

— **Hurt and Confused**
Dear Hurt: Yes. You will gain more by forgiving than you will by holding a grudge. As an added benefit, it will strengthen your marriage, which sounds like it could use some help.

We are less angry with the relatives than with your husband, who should have been more supportive of you. However, we know that these barracudas are exhausting to battle, day after day, and it's easier to give in than keep fighting. Now that Mom is out of the picture, however, you have an opportunity to be an integral part of your husband's family, and we think they will welcome you with open arms.

Dear Annie: My husband has a bad back and can sleep only in an adjustable bed or recliner. This totally limits our taking vacations.

Are there any hotels or cruise lines that have accommodations that would allow people with limitations such as his to enjoy their facilities?

— **A Virginian**
Dear Virginian: Absolutely. Look for hotels that have suites or kitchenettes, which are likelier to include a room with a recliner.

There are many organizations that offer full-package tours and cruises for those with special needs (we found a helpful Web site maintained by Jim Lubin at www.makoo.org that lists travel sites). Your husband also might want to invest in a portable reclining lawn chair that he can bring wherever he goes.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annie-mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

Family Circus



"This is like a church, Mommy. Everyone's whispering."

GRAFFITI

TO SOME, A SECOND MARRIAGE IS A NEW LEASH ON LIFE

MBA 7/29

Dennis the Menace



"If you expect the worst, this kid won't disappoint you."

© Gary Larson

The Far Side

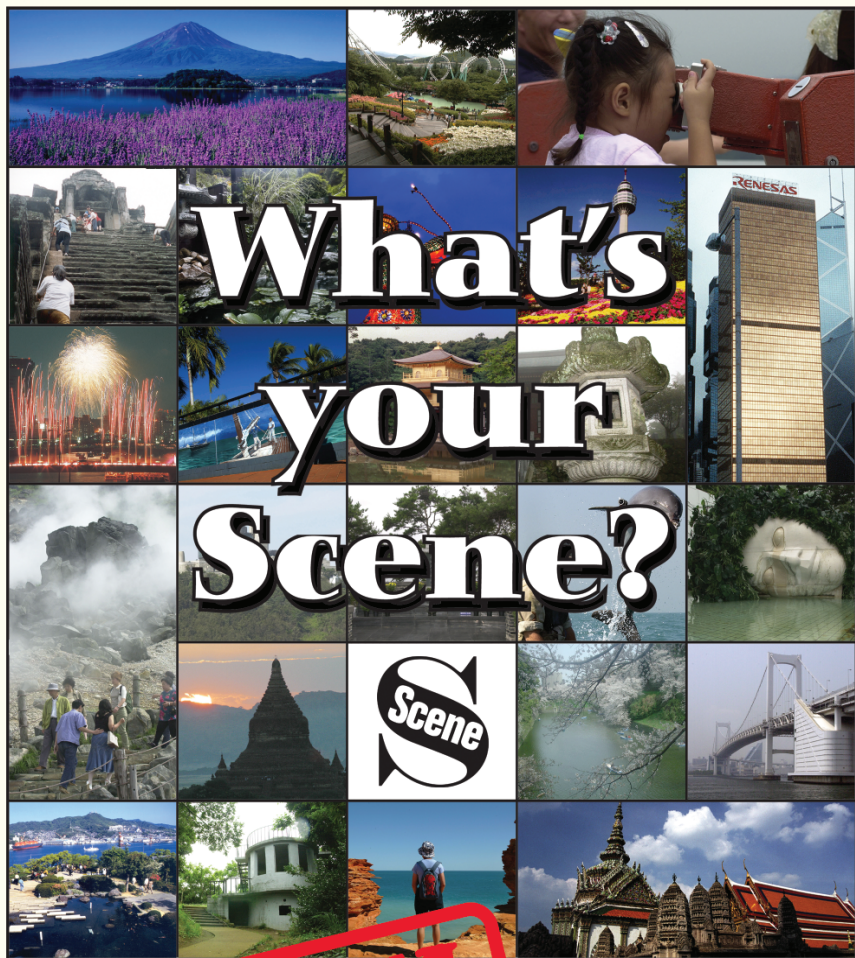


"Good heavens, John! Call someone! ... The entire basement looks dry!"

Non Sequitur



"I suppose the first order of business is to figure out how the heck someone got this table in here."



TRAVEL

Sunday

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Celebrities crowd-pleasers at Democratic convention



Maria Shriver, trading her role as California's first lady for member of the Kennedy clan, is among the stars attending the Democratic National Convention in Boston.

BY CHRISTY LEMIRE
The Associated Press

BOSTON — The cocktail party was organized to honor the work of Robert F. Kennedy, but the man everyone wanted to talk to was Alec Baldwin.

The actor was swarmed at a fund-raiser Monday evening for the RFK Memorial Foundation, with fans and stargazers — many of them members of the Kennedy clan — jockeying for his picture taken with him. He was practically pressed against the glass windows of a club 36 floors up.

The star of films including "Gleaming Glen Ross" and "The Cooler" greeted his admirers gra-

ciously but seemed more interested in discussing the presidential election.

"I never saw a clearer choice in my life," Baldwin said, describing the Bush administration as being "good at only two things: the economy — and by that I mean stimulating the Dow, stimulating corporate profits and the Dow — and waging war. And they basically screwed up both of them, or they're in the process of screwing up both of them."

The 46-year-old actor took time out from vacationing with his 8-year-old daughter, Ireland, from his marriage to Kim Basinger, to participate in several events during the Democratic National Convention. They included a panel about the Supreme Court and a discussion on politics and the arts.

Maria Shriver is back at the Democratic convention, but this time she's not here as a journalist.

The longtime television reporter gave up her job as a correspondent for NBC's "Dateline" in January to avoid conflicts of interest when her Republican husband, Arnold Schwarzenegger, became California's governor.

"It's the first convention I haven't covered in, like, four conventions, so it's bittersweet that way," she said. "I'm a big believer that you take what life gives you and you move on and you make the best of it."

Shriver has taken part in some events during the convention, though. Besides Monday night's fund-raiser, she attended the dedication of the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway, named for the matriarch of the Kennedy clan, who was Shriver's grandmother.

She brought along her four kids. Her husband remains mired in a budget battle with the California state legislature. Shriver will also be on hand at the Republican National Convention in New York month, where Schwarzenegger is a featured speaker.

Christine Baranski was to sing at a tribute to Teresa Heinz Kerry on Tuesday, but she warmed up by singing her praises Monday night.

Baranski, who made an appearance at the RFK Memorial Foundation party, said she reworked the words to Peggy Lee's sassy classic "I'm a Woman" with John F. Kerry's wife in mind.

"She's a great lady to write lyrics for because she's so interesting, she's so multifaceted," said the actress, who co-starred in the sitcom "Cybill" and has appeared in movies including "Chicago" and "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

"I like that she's direct, that she's earthy, that she's very intelligent but she's soft-spoken," Baranski said. "She values her femininity."

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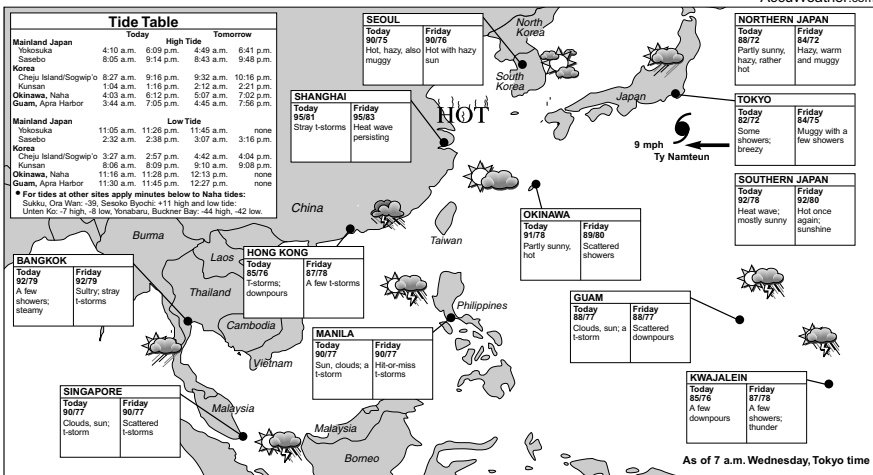
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New Army
EXCHANGE

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The Pacific Forecast

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Extended Forecasts

TOKYO

Saturday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 86, low 74.
Sunday: Partly sunny, high 84, low 73.

KADENA

Saturday: Partly sunny,
high 89, low 78.
Sunday: Showers,
high 87, low 76.

SEOUL

Saturday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 92, low 76.
Sunday: Thunderstorms, high 90, low 73.

MANILA

Saturday: Thundershowers
high 88, low 75.
Sunday: Thundershowers,
high 90, low 77.

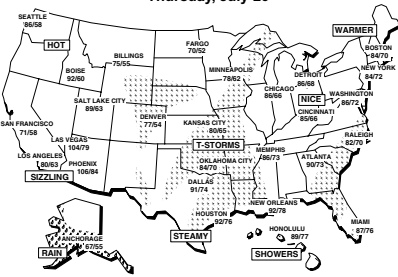
HAGATNA

Saturday: Showers,
high 88, low 75.
Sunday: Showers,
high 88, low 77.

Tuesday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW
Albuquerque	\$4/04	Los Angeles	\$3/03
Amarillo	81/81	Little Rock	78/64
Anchorage	62/65	Louisville	85/61
Asheville	80/81	Madison	81/81
Baltimore	83/71	Milwaukee	75/51
Birmingham	84/65	Nashville	80/69
Bismarck	89/57	New York	74/68
Boulder	81/81	Omaha	83/83
Boston	71/64	Orlando	91/78
Brownsville	76/66	Philadelphia	82/72
Buffalo	70/70	Pasadena	72/60
Burlington	72/60	Pittsburgh	74/60
Charleston, SC	91/67	Portland, OR	92/62
Charlotte	86/75	Portland, ME	71/62
Chattanooga	81/81	San Jose	84/64
Columbus, OH	72/58	St. Louis	84/64
Duluth	72/50	San Antonio	89/64
El Paso	85/68	San Diego	74/65
Evansville	81/81	San Juan	80/65
Helena	85/62	Tampa	90/76
Indianapolis	73/58	Tulsa	87/65
Jacksonville	81/81	Washington	85/65
Kansas City	83/61	Wichita	85/65

Thursday, July 29



U.S. Extended Forecast

A lingering frontal boundary will cause showers and thunderstorms across parts of the East Coast, mainly from Massachusetts to near Carolina Thursday. Showers and thunderstorms will occur over Florida mainly during the afternoon and evening. High pressure across Ohio will bring dry weather and sunny to partly cloudy skies from Arkansas to Western New York state. A second cold front will spread showers and thunderstorms from northern Michigan to northern Texas. Cool, dry weather will push across the Dakotas and northern Minnesota. A few showers will occur in the central Rockies; otherwise, most of the West will be dry. The East Coast will have warmer conditions.

Thursday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	92/79	Iwakuni	92/78	Sasebo NB	90/78
Beijing	79/67	Kadena AB	91/78	Sapporo	88/72
Camp Casey	91/73	Kunsan AB	90/76	Seoul	90/75
Christchurch	48/31	Kwajalein	85/76	Shanghai	90/75
Diego Garcia	83/76	Manila	90/77	Singapore	90/77
Hagatna	88/77	Misawa AB	83/71	Sydney	62/45
Hanoi	91/79	Osan	92/73	Taegu	93/86
Hong Kong	85/76	Perth	82/44	Taipei	91/74
Honolulu	89/77	Pusan	86/75	Tokyo	89/72

Thursday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	91/78	Buenos Aires	66/48	Kabul	97/61	Nairobi	75/51
Athens	85/67	Buenos Aires	54/38	Kiev	84/64	New Delhi	90/74
Auckland	58/46	Cairo	102/71	Kuwait	115/82	Oslo	78/59
Baghdad	116/84	Cancun	85/74	London	76/60	Paris	79/61
Bahamas	86/70	Cardenas	82/67	Madrid	93/63	Rio de Janeiro	69/57
Barcelona	76/62	Cienfuegos	80/64	Mexico City	70/55	Rome	81/61
Berlin	75/59	Genova	83/62	Montreal	84/68	St. Petersburg	66/54
Bermuda	87/65	Jerusalem	90/68	Mogadishu	83/70	Stockholm	75/58
Brussels	77/60	Johannesburg	64/33	Moscow	84/58	Sarawak	72/56



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SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

Times listed are Japan and Korea Standard Time. Games are one hour ahead; Singapore and Hong Kong are one hour behind. Schedule subject to change without notice.

Television

AFN-Pacific/AFN-Korea
SAT, July 31, at 10 a.m. — Pro boxing: English Union vs. Alex. Barreto for the WBC light-middleweight title.

AFN-Atlantic

THU, July 28, at 8 a.m. — Pro baseball: Philadelphia vs. Florida.
THU, July 28, at 11 a.m. — Pro baseball: Oakland vs. Texas.

AFN-Sports

THU, July 28, at 3 a.m. — Pro baseball: Minnesota vs. Chicago White Sox.
THU, July 28, at 8:30 a.m. — Pro tennis: ATP Masters Series Wimbledon.

THU, July 28, at 11 a.m. — Pro baseball: San Francisco vs. San Diego.
THU, July 28, at 8 p.m. — Pro golf: U.S. Senior Open, first round.

FRI, July 30, at 8 a.m. — Pro golf: U.S. Senior Open, first round.

FRI, July 30, at 8:30 a.m. — Pro tennis: ATP Masters Series Wimbledon.

SAT, July 30, at 11 a.m. — Women's pro basketball: Los Angeles vs. Sacramento.

SAT, July 30, at 8 p.m. — Track and field: U.S. Open.

SUN, July 31, at 9 a.m. — Pro baseball: Chicago White Sox vs. Detroit.

SUN, July 31, at 2 p.m. — Pro tennis: ATP Masters Series Wimbledon.

SAT, July 31, at 5 a.m. — Pro golf: U.S. Senior Open, second round.

SAT, July 31, at 11 a.m. — Pro baseball: St. Louis vs. San Francisco.

SAT, July 31, at 4 p.m. — Pro golf: PGA Tour, second round.

SAT, July 31, at 7 p.m. — Pro baseball: Boston vs. Minnesota.

Pro soccer

Major League Soccer

Eastern Conference

W	L	T	Pts	GB
MetStars	1	1	3	13
Columbus	1	1	3	13
Chicago	1	1	3	13
San Jose	4	8	19	28

Western Conference

W	L	T	Pts	GB
Los Angeles	1	1	3	28
Kansas City	1	1	3	28
Colorado	1	1	3	28
San Diego	1	1	3	28

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for a draw.

Weekend's games
Chivas de California
Chicago at Kansas City
Saturday, Aug. 6
All-Star Game at Washington
Columbus at Washington
D.C. United at San Jose

Pro basketball

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	Pct	GB
New York	11	12	50.0
Connecticut	11	12	50.0
Indiana	11	12	50.0
San Jose	11	12	50.0
Washington	11	12	50.0

WESTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	11	7	70.0
Minnesota	11	7	70.0
Seattle	11	7	70.0
San Antonio	11	7	70.0
Sacramento	11	7	70.0

Sunday's games
Sacramento 71, Indiana 70
Seattle 84, Washington 70
San Antonio 70, Los Angeles 68
San Jose 70, Minnesota 68

Tuesday's games
Seattle at Washington
Detroit at Washington
Charlotte at Atlanta
San Antonio at Minnesota

Japan baseball

Central League

W L T Pct GB

Chunichi	47	34	580	71
Yomiuri	42	39	548	76
Hanshin	39	40	458	79
Yokohama	41	42	452	80
Hiroshima	38	45	459	10

Tuesday's games
Yomiuri 5, Hiroshima 4
Chunichi 6, Hanshin 2
Yokohama 4, Hiroshima 3

Pacific League

W L T Pct GB

Daiichi	23	38	550	2
Nippon Ham	20	41	549	5
Yokichi	42	40	489	10
Yokichi	36	46	489	10

Tuesday's games
Daiichi 4, Seibu 2
Nippon Ham 1, Lotte 1
Yokichi 1, Nippon Ham 1
Nippon Ham 1, Kintetsu 3

Tennis

Alca Classic

Monday
Alca Classic, Royal and Spa
Caribbean, Calif.
First round

Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Veru Zvonareva (10), Russia, def. Nathalie Dechy (14), France, 6-3, 6-3.

Kidja Molik, Australia, def. Nicole Pietrangeli, France, 6-3, 6-4.

Morag, Israel, def. Puerto Rico, def. Akiko Moriyama, Japan, 6-3, 1-6, 7-5.

Handkender, United States, def. Peggy Schmitt (13), Switzerland, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5.

Manchion, Brazil, def. Fabiola Zucchi, Argentina, 6-3, 6-4.

Elia Bonini, Russia, def. Francesca Schiavone, Italy, 6-3, 6-4.

Handkender, United States, def. Marisa Vento-Kabchi, Venezuela, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4.

Handkender, United States, def. Marisa Vento-Kabchi, Venezuela, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4.

Handkender, United States, def. Marisa Vento-Kabchi, Venezuela, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4.

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Handkender, United States, def. Marisa Vento-Kabchi, Venezuela, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4.

12. Kerry Perry USA 4.77
13. Chad Campbell USA 4.77
14. Nicky Pietrangeli USA 4.77
15. Stuart Appleby USA 4.77
16. Todd Hamilton USA 4.77
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Twins hustle past Central rival White Sox

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen had no problem with Totti Hunter's jarring hit on his catcher. In fact, Guillen hopes his team learned something from the Minnesota star's hustle.

Hunter bawled over White Sox catcher Jamie Burke in the eighth inning, sending him to the hospital with a sore jaw after the Twins' 6-2 road victory over their Central Division rival Monday.

"If my players don't like it, that's a message. You got to play the game hard. I know if it happened on my side, I'd be high-fiving my players," Guillen said.

Hunter scored on Henry Blanco's sacrifice fly, helping the Twins win for the eighth time in 10 games and push their lead over Chicago to 1 1/2 games.

"I wasn't trying to hurt him. I was just playing the game like you should play the game," Hunter said. "I'm not a dirty player. I just go out and hit the ball and play the game. That's it."

Blanco added a homer in the

AL Roundup

fourth to break a solid performance by Brad Radke (7-6).

The Minnesota starter allowed three hits in seven innings and retired the final 16 batters he faced. He did not allow a hit after the second when he gave up Paul Konerko's 27th homer and a single to Tim Lincecum.

"It was like a playoff atmosphere and I think this team knows that," Radke said.

The Twins quickly reversed a trend of struggling against Mark Buehrle (10-4), scoring a run in the first and second innings for an early lead. He was 3-0 against Minnesota this season and had beaten them six straight times dating to June 2003.

But the Twins tagged Buehrle for four runs on 12 hits in 6 1/2 innings Monday night. — Michael Husted this season.

Rangers 6, Angels 1: Michael Young hit a leadoff homer, Gary

Mathews Jr. added a three-run shot and Ryan Drese (7-5) earned his first road win of the season for AL West-leading Texas.

Young drove Kelvin Escobar's second pitch into the left-field bullpen for his eighth career lead-off homer. Escobar (5-8) lost for the sixth time in seven decisions.

Athletics 14, Mariners 5: Eric Byrnes had a three-run double and four RBIs, and Oakland bailed out struggling starter Barry Zito (6-7) by rallying from a four-run deficit.

Ichiro Suzuki extended his hitting streak to 18 games, and Justin Leone homered for the Mariners. Seattle has lost 13 straight road games.

Erubiel Durazo homered for the second straight day, Damian Miller had three hits and an RBI, and Eric Chavez had three RBIs for Los Angeles, who took advantage of 14 walks.

Zito (6-7) beat Travis Blackley (1-3) to win for only the second time since June 8.

Red Sox 12, Orioles 5: Boston's Pedro Martinez ended a run of frustration against the Orioles.

Martinez (11-4) was pulled with one out in the seventh inning during his steady rain in Baltimore. He allowed five runs on seven hits, walked two and struck out five.

Martinez came in 0-2 with a 8.66 ERA in three starts against Baltimore this season.

Jason Varitek singled in two runs to cap a six-run third inning against rookie Eric Bedard (4-5) and finished with three RBIs.

The Red Sox have 39 runs and 52 hits in their past four games.

Tigers 13, Indians 4: Mike Maroth pitched seven innings and visiting Detroit got home runs from Carlos Guillen and Marcus Thames.

Thames hit a two-run homer in a six-run first against Cliff Lee (10-3), and Guillen had a three-run shot when the Tigers added six in the fifth to open a 12-2 lead.

Maroth (8-7) won his third straight. He allowed four runs and eight hits.

Yankees 6, Blue Jays 5 (10): Tony Clark hit a go-ahead double



Minnesota Twins' Henry Blanco hit a two-run homer as the Twins increased their lead over the Chicago White Sox to 1 1/2 games with a 6-2 victory in Chicago.

in the 10th inning off Jason Francisco (3-3), and visiting New York won despite Mariano Rivera blowing his second straight save.

Rivera converted 23 consecutive saves before giving up three runs in an 11-0 loss to Boston on Saturday. Rivera (2-1) failed to hold a two-run lead in the ninth against Toronto, but pitched a perfect 10th for the victory.

Carlos Delgado and Gregg Zaun homered for Toronto.

Indians trade OF Branyan to Milwaukee for cash

The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Russell Branyan didn't let a little thing like not seeing his name on the lineup card ruin his return to the major leagues on Monday.

Branyan is getting back to the big leagues. Step 2 is getting back in the lineup. Branyan said after the Cleveland Indians traded him to the Milwaukee Brewers for cash.

Branyan struck out when he pinch-hit in the ninth inning of the Brewers' 3-1 loss to the Chicago Cubs on Monday night.

The 28-year-old Branyan started the year in Atlanta's organization and was traded to the Indians on April 25. Assigned to Triple-A Buffalo, he hit .279 with 26 home runs and 79 RBIs.

The Indians agreed to let him go if another major league team wanted him.

A power hitter prone to strike-

MLB briefs

outs, Branyan made his major league debut with the Indians. He hit a career-high 24 home runs while splitting the 2002 season with Cleveland and Cincinnati.

He hit 216 with nine homers and 26 RBIs for the Reds last year.

Branyan has played in 400 major league games and batted .227 with 70 homers and 190 RBIs. He has struck out 449 times in 1,104 at-bats.

Seattle's Pinediro will go on DL

OAKLAND, Calif. — Seattle starter Joel Pinediro will be placed on the disabled list this week with a strained right elbow, an injury that's not as severe as the club thought Sunday night.

Doctors determined Pinediro

won't need surgery now, and the Mariners are hopeful he will return this season after initially fearing the right-hander, 25, had a season-ending injury.

The injury is to the flexor bundle, several tendons that come together in the same place and are used to flex the wrist, trainer Rod Martin said.

Pinediro has a 4.67 ERA and leads the Mariners with 111 strikeouts, 140 1/3 innings pitched and 21 starts.

A's, Karros parting ways

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Oakland Athletics designated first baseman Eric Karros for assignment on Tuesday.

The A's also activated left-hander Chris Hammond from the 15-day disabled list. He's been out since June 12 with a strained left shoulder.

Oakland has 10 days to trade

Karros, release him or assign him outright to the minors.

Karros, 36, struggled in his first season with the A's, batting .194 with two homers and 11 RBIs while starting just 24 games. The 14-year veteran signed with Oakland last February after 12 seasons in Los Angeles and one season with the Chicago Cubs.

Twins' Punto breaks clavicle

CHICAGO — Minnesota Twins second baseman Nick Punto broke his right collarbone while charging a ball in the first inning of Monday night's game with the Chicago White Sox.

Punto charged Willie Harris' bunt as well as he unsuccessfully tried to scoop it and throw to first. Harris reached on a single.

Punto was examined on the field by a trainer and later had X-rays at U.S. Cellular Field that revealed the break. He was re-

placed by Luis Rivas.

Punto, who lined up in the top of the first, has appeared in 38 games and batted .253.

Rangers make roster moves

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The Texas Rangers placed reliever Doug Brocail and designated hitter Brad Fullon on the 15-day disabled list Monday. Reliever Jeff Nelson and first baseman Herbert Perry were activated from the DL.

Indians designate Robertson

CLEVELAND — Jeremie Robertson was designated for assignment Tuesday by the Cleveland Indians, who acquired the left-hander in a March trade from Houston.

Robertson went 0-0 with a 12.21 ERA in eight games for the Indians. As a rookie last season, he went 15-9 for the Astros.

Tenacity: Rogers is oldest player on Rangers' young roster

ROGERS, FROM BACK PAGE

Still, Rogers can never go better than he did that night in 1994, when he threw the 14th perfect game in major league history, the 12th since the modern era began in 1900.

Just hours after a strike date was set that would end the season two weeks later and lead to the cancellation of the World Series, Rogers had a magical two-hour outing before 46,581 at the new Ballpark in Arlington.

"It wasn't a matter of stuff or velocity or location," Rogers said. "Everything had to do with the frame of mind I was in. The only regret was that I couldn't just step out of my body and go in from the front row and watch it."

Rogers threw just 98 pitches and struck out eight, with two-spot start Bo Jackson going down on strikes three times. There were nine flyballs, three infield popouts and seven groundouts.

"I remember that night, he had above-average stuff," said Rex Hudler, the Angels' second baseman then who is now a broadcaster for the team. "His fastball was 94-95, he had a real nice change-up. All of his pitches seemed to be working. He was cruising along."

He only needed a little help.

Third baseman Dean Palmer ended the third inning — long before thoughts of a no-hitter — when he handled a tough pop and

threw out Gary DiSarcina by a step.

As Hudler got loose in the on-deck circle to lead off the ninth, he told fans he was going to go to get a hit. Then, after fouling off a couple of pitches, he hit a sinking liner into the right-center field gap.

"I hit kind of a jam shot, kind of off my hands a little bit, but when it went off the bat, I thought it was going to fall in," Hudler said.

"I left the box going, 'I got him, I got him.' ... And I just heard that the ump was deafening 'I'll never forget that.'"

Rookie center fielder Rusty Greer had made a diving catch to preserve the only perfect game

and one of only five no-hitters in Rangers history. Those two later, Greer caught DiSarcina's flyball to end it.

Rogers said he hasn't watched the game often. The last time was when he walked in on Greer watching the tape.

"Rusty has a knack of pointing out when he did something pretty good," Rogers said, laughing. "I don't really need the video to remember it."

A decade later, Greer is still trying to come back from a series of surgeries resulting from his hard-nosed play. He hasn't played two years.

Rogers is back for his third stint with the team that drafted him in 1982. He left as a free

agent after 1995 to sign with the New York Yankees, then spent time with the Los Angeles Dodgers before returning to Texas in 2000. He spent last season in Minnesota, after being unable to reach a new contract with the Rangers, before coming back as the No. 1 starter with a two-year deal.

Rogers is the oldest player for the AL West-leading Rangers, a team built around 20-somethings players like All-Star infielders Hank Blalock, Michael Young and Alfonso Soriano, and outfielder Jayce Nix, who was in Little League when Rogers threw his perfect game.

"It's hard to believe I'm still here after 10 years," Rogers said. "There's a little more gray, but not much different physically."

D-backs end 14-game skid; Pettitte ailing again

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Luis Gonzalez and the Arizona Diamondbacks finally have something to feel good about.

The Houston Astros, however, are worried about Andy Pettitte's elbow again.

The Diamondbacks snapped their club-record 14-game losing streak Monday night, beating Houston 4-1 behind Brandon Webb's pitching and Scott Hairston's hitting.

"It's been stressful. We're major leaguers and we don't like being embarrassed. It's been a long time," Gonzalez said. "Anytime you lose 14 games in a row it's not fun. We all made mistakes and we all shared in the frustration. None of us wanted to be embarrassed by losing any more games."

Pettitte came out after the fifth inning because of his troublesome left elbow, which has sent him to the disabled list twice this

season.

"I aggravated it again a little bit. We're going to see how it feels the next couple of days and hopefully I'll be able to make my next start," Pettitte said. "It's the same thing, the flexor tendon in my elbow, but it's not as bad as it was before. I threw a backdoor cutter to [Alex] Cintron in the fourth and that is when I first felt it."

Pettitte (6-4) gave up three hits, including consecutive homers to Hairston and Gonzalez in the first inning. The left-hander struck out four and walked none before leaving with a sore elbow.

Pettitte was on the disabled list April 7-29 with a left elbow strain and again from May 27 to June 28 with a left forearm strain.

He's been limited to just 13 starts since signing with Houston in the offseason. "I really felt good after those home runs. I was really putting it where I wanted to. I think I'll be able to make my next start. We are at a point where I need to



Arizona Diamondbacks' Chad Tracy (18), Greg Aquino, center, and Juan Brito celebrate their 4-1 victory over the Houston Astros on Monday. It was Arizona's first victory since beating San Francisco on July 8.

pitch," Pettitte said.

Pettitte will be examined by a doctor Tuesday to determine the extent of the injury.

"He said that he felt something

when we came out to talk to him in the fifth, but he said he thought he could get through the inning. We didn't want him to push it. He probably could have gone back

out," Houston manager Phil Garner said. "I know he has had trouble with it in the past, but let's wait and see what the doctor says."

The Diamondbacks won for the first time beating San Francisco on July 8. Arizona, which went 0-11 on a homestand that ended Sunday, improved to 5-30 since June 18.

"Everybody has been playing hard. It would be different if we had just been throwing our gloves out there," Hairston said.

"It's tough to swallow losing 14 in a row, but tonight we put it all together."

Webb (4-11) ended his six-game losing streak, holding Houston to one run and six hits in 7 1/3 innings. He threw a season-high 124 pitches, striking out five and walking four.

"Tonight it seemed like I got stronger each inning. Now maybe we can get back on track," Webb said.

St. Louis widens gap in Central

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Anytime a game comes down to the clutch hit, the St. Louis Cardinals seem to get it.

Tony Womack singled with the bases loaded in the 11th inning.

Monday night, sparking a four-run rally for a 9-6 victory over the fading Cincinnati Reds.

St. Louis came from behind twice to send it to extra innings, then sent nine batters to the plate in the 11th to hold onto its 10-game lead in the NL Central and the best overall record in the majors.

"Whoever had the last hero," manager Tony La Russa said.

This time, it was Womack, who didn't start the game and was in a 3-4 slump when he singled off John Riedling to snap a 5-1 tie.

"I've been confident even without getting hits," Womack said. "The Reds lost their sixth in a row — not the way they wanted to start a homestand that could very well determine their season. They threw a pair of leads and fell to 5-6 for the first time since May 13.

Much of the damage has been inflicted by the Cardinals, who have won nine of 11 against the Reds this season.

"They've got a great team," first baseman Sean Casey said. "Everything you want to be, they have. We've just got to find a way to win."

Last year, the Reds found ways to pull out games. They swept a four-game series from the Cardinals in May last year, two of them game-ending homers followed by on-field celebrations.

"We're getting a taste of what they felt last year," Cardinals starter Woody Williams said. "We



So Taguchi drives in a run with a sacrifice fly for St. Louis in the 11th inning on Monday. The Cardinals beat the Reds 9-6.

had to watch those guys bounce at that plate."

There were six homers in all Monday, matching the ballpark record. Ultimately, it was decided on a routine fly.

Jim Edmonds led off the 11th with a four-pitch walk off Phil Norton (1-3), who couldn't throw a strike to the only batter he faced. After John Mabry singled off Riedling, right fielder Wily Mo Pena let Mike Matheny's fly deflect off the heel of his glove for an error, loading the bases.

"The ball just hit like that," Pena said, showing where it went off his glove. "It can happen to anybody. Tonight, it happened to me."

That was all the help St. Louis needed.

Womack's single snapped the tie, and So Taguchi followed with a sacrifice fly. Edgar Renteria completed the rally with a two-run single.

Ray King (4-1) retired Sean Casey to end the 10th, keeping the NL Central leaders in line for yet another extra-inning win. The Cardinals are 7-1 in extra innings this season.

Dodgers 9, Rockies 7: Milton Bradley broke out of a slump with three RBIs, and Adrian Beltré hit his 28th homer in Los Angeles' ninth straight road victory.

Jose Hernandez also homered for the NL West-leading Dodgers, who won for the 18th time in 21 games overall. Eric Gagne got his 29th save in 30 chances.

Padres 3, Giants 2: At San Diego, Jake Peavy didn't allow a hit until the sixth inning, and Barry Bonds was thrown out at the plate trying to score the tying run in the eighth on a grounder to second.

Brian Giles' seventh-inning sacrifice fly put the Padres ahead 3-2. Trevor Hoffman got his 27th save. Bonds walked four times.

Braves 4, Pirates 2: Jarrett Wright (8-5) and four Atlanta relievers shut down the Pirates in what might have been Kris Benson's last start in Pittsburgh as a member of the Pirates.

J.D. Drew ran his hitting streak to 22 games with a single in Atlanta's go-ahead fourth inning against Benson (8-8), expected to be dealt by Saturday's deadline for trading without waivers. John Smoltz earned his 22nd save.

Marlins 11, Phillies 3: Jeff Cozine hit a three-run double, and A.J. Burnett (2-5) beat Kevin Millwood (8-6).

The Phillies have lost 11 consecutive games in Miami, including four this year. They're 1-8 against the Marlins this season and 16-31 the past three years. Miguel Cabrera hit a two-run homer for Florida.

Cubs 3, Brewers 1: Matt Clement (8-9) beat Victor Santos (9-5) for his first win since June 8, and Mark Grudzielanek had two RBIs for the Cubs in Milwaukee.

The Brewers, 3-9 since the All-Star break, were 0-for-10 with runners in scoring position. Derek Lee homered for the Cubs, and LaTroy Hawkins earned his 14th save.

Five in a row for Expos

The Associated Press

MONTREAL — Tony Batista and the Montreal Expos have finally got their bats going.

Batista had four hits and a career-high six RBIs to help Montreal extend its season-high winning streak to five with a 19-10 victory over the New York Mets on Monday night.

"I feel lucky," said Batista, who is 5-for-9 with two homers and nine RBIs in his last two games. "I hope I can continue driving in a lot of runs and keep winning."

Jose Vidro hit a three-run homer to spark a seven-run outburst in the third. Brad Wilkerson had three hits, including two in Montreal's second-biggest inning of the season, and Orlando Cabrera doubled twice and had three RBIs for Montreal, which also scored four in the fourth to build a 12-4 lead.

The Expos, who also won four

straight from May 14-18, hadn't won five in a row since Aug. 24-28. Their biggest win was a 21-9 victory in Colorado on April 28, 1996. It is the eighth time Montreal has scored 19 runs in a game.

"I don't know how many runs we needed but we needed more than I thought we would after we got at least 12," Expos manager Frank Robinson said. "It wasn't pretty, but the thing about it is we got a win."

Ron Calloway and Batista hit two-run homers. Montreal tied a season high with 18 hits. Mets rookie David Wright hit his first major league home run off John Patterson in the second and Richard Hidalgo homered twice and drove in three runs.

"It's good to get that first one under your belt and do everything you can to help the team win, but when we lose like that, the last couple of days, it's definitely tough, it's bittersweet," Wright said.

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Judge may allow release of transcripts that detail Bryant accuser's sex life

Seven outlets have documents; Supreme Court urges full disclosure

BY JON SANCHEZ
The Associated Press

DENVER — The judge in the Kobe Bryant sexual assault case indicated Tuesday he wants to settle a First Amendment fight with the media by releasing at least some details from a closed-door hearing on the accuser's sex life and other potential evidence.

Prodded by the U.S. Supreme Court, District Judge Terry Ruckriegle ordered prosecutors and defense attorneys to work together on proposed deletions in transcripts from the June 21-22 hearing. He asked for the edited copy and the attorneys' reasons for keeping anything sealed by late after noon Tuesday.

The judge did not indicate whether or when he might release details from the hearing.

The transcripts were mistakenly e-mailed to The Associated Press and six other news organizations by a court reporter last month, prompting a contempt of court threat from the judge for anyone who

released the details.

No organization has published the contents, but the media groups challenged Ruckriegle's order as an unconstitutional restraint on a free press. Late Monday, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer rejected a media request to overturn the order, but said the situation could be resolved by releasing the transcripts.

"We're happy that there's movement toward releasing some of the material — we don't know how much — but we believe there's still a vital principle at stake that isn't addressed by this 'solution,'" said Kristin Gazlay, the AP's deputy managing editor for national news. "We would, of course, want to see what material is released before making any decision on whether to take further legal steps, but our biggest concern here is protecting the media's First Amendment rights."

Besides the AP, the documents were mistakenly sent to The Denver Post, the Los Angeles Times, CBS, Fox News, ESPN and the television show "Celebrity Justice."

Bryant, 25, has pleaded not guilty to felony

sexual assault. He has said he had consensual sex with the woman, then 19, at a Vail-area resort where she worked and he was a guest. If convicted, the NBA star faces four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation, and a fine up to \$750,000. His trial begins Aug. 27.

As attorneys in the case reviewed Ruckriegle's order, two attorneys for the accuser — Lin Wood and John Clune — were meeting to discuss deletions in the case. In the past week, the judge has cleared the way for the defense to use sensitive and potentially embarrassing information about her at trial.

Specifically, Ruckriegle said Bryant's attorneys can present evidence and witness testimony about the accuser's sex life in the three days before her hospital exam. The defense wants to use the information to undermine her credibility and bolster its claim that her injuries could have been caused by sex with someone other than Bryant.

The defense also claims the woman had sex with someone in the 15 hours after she



Kobe Bryant and his attorney Pamela McClure, foreground, head into court this month. The trial for the 25-year-old NBA star, who has pleaded not guilty to felony sexual assault, is scheduled to begin Aug. 27.

left Bryant and before she contacted authorities, a charge Clune has denied. Wood and Clune were not immediately available to comment about their meeting, but prosecutors said Monday the woman is still determined to go to trial.

Timberwolves' Hassell signs Portland's offer sheet

The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Trenton Hassell signed an offer sheet with the Portland Trail Blazers on Monday, giving Minnesota 15 days to decide whether it wants to match the offer and keep the restricted free agent.

The Blazers did not disclose terms, but Hassell's agent, Mark Bartelstein, said it was worth \$27 million over six years.

"They have to sort it out, and frankly the clock won't start ticking until they see the offer sheet, which will be tomorrow," Trail Blazers General Manager John Nash said Monday. "Obviously, they don't want to lose a player like Trent Hassell, but on the other hand they have to address what's best for them."

Hassell started 74 games for Minnesota last season after two seasons with the Chicago Bulls, who picked him in the second round of the 2001 draft.

Defense is the 6-foot-5 guard's specialty. "There's a lot of scorers in this league, but there's not a lot of people ... who are willing to sacrifice and play defense," Hassell said. "When I first started out I had no choice — that was the only way I was going to get to play. So I kind of got a reputation

NBA briefs

and I did well at it."

Blazers coach Maurice Cheeks said Hassell is just what the Blazers need.

"It makes our defense a lot better. I think that's what we need to win big games," Cheeks said.

Hassell averaged 15.0 points, 3.2 rebounds and 1.6 assists per game while shooting 46.5 percent from the field and 78.7 percent from the free throw line for the Timberwolves during the regular season. He averaged 7.7 points, 2.4 rebounds and 1.4 assists in Minnesota's 18 playoff games.

Mavericks send Fortson to Sonics for Booth

DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks traded power forward Danny Fortson to the Seattle SuperSonics for Calvin Booth, bringing back the 7-footer they once thought might solve their woes at center.

The deal seems a good fit for both clubs. Dallas is focused on improving its defense and Booth is an excellent shot-blocker. The Sonics were the NBA's worst rebounding team last season and Fortson has twice been among the league's best in that category. Their salaries also were nearly identical,

with both of their contracts running through the 2006-07 season.

"Calvin wanted and needed a change of address and I think Dallas did too," Seattle coach Nate McMillan said.

Booth came to Dallas with Juwan Howard at the trade deadline in 2001. He played well in the final 15 regular-season games, then in the playoffs hit one of the most memorable shots in team history — a short jumper with 9.8 seconds left that won a first-round series over Utah. The Mavericks had trailed 0-2 in that best-of-five series and were down 17 late in that game.

"When he was with the Mavs, it was probably his best year as a pro," said Donnie Nelson, Dallas' president of basketball operations. "We're hoping to recapture some of that magic."

Dallas had hoped to re-sign Booth that off-season, but Seattle offered more than the Mavericks could. He never lived up to expectations with the Sonics, partly because of injuries and a shift in the team's style.

Booth never averaged more than 6.2 points, 3.9 rebounds and 18.6 minutes, while missing 11.3 games.

He played 71 games last season, starting 35. He averaged 4.9 points and 3.9 rebounds, and led the team with 1.42 blocks.

During his first stint in Dallas, Booth averaged 7.5 points on 55 percent shooting, 4.8 rebounds and 2.0 blocks. Coach Don Nelson envisioned the former Big Ten defensive player of the year fitting in nicely as a complementary player to the team's perimeter scorers.

Four years later, he'll get to find out, although the 28-year-old Booth will have to fight for playing time with Shawn Bradley, Christian Laettner and rookie Pavel Podkolzin.

Fortson was acquired last summer along with Artawn Jamison for Nick Van Exel. The burly rebounding specialist was never able to stay in coach Don Nelson's rotation. Fortson averaged 11.2 minutes over 56 games, with 3.9 points and 4.5 rebounds per game. He was fourth in the NBA in rebounding in the 1996-99 and 2001-02 seasons.

Bobcats sign top-pick Okafor

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Charlotte Bobcats have signed Emeke Okafor, getting the No. 2 overall pick under contract before he leaves for Greece to play for the U.S. Olympic team.

Okafor signed the three-year deal worth about \$10 million on Monday.

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S subpoena threat makes Fulmer skip SEC media days

By ELIZABETH A. DAVIS

The Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee football coach Phillip Fulmer will not attend this week's Southeastern Conference media days after learning that attorneys in a lawsuit against the NCAA plan to subpoena him at the event in Alabama.

Attorneys representing a former Alabama assistant coach have accused Fulmer of conspiring with the NCAA in bringing down the Crimson Tide football program by speaking to an NCAA investigator four years ago. Alabama was placed on five years probation in 2002 after the NCAA uncovered recruiting violations that included payments to players from boosters.

"I am not attending media days because of the legal circus that has been created by an isolated group of attorneys. They want to hijack media days for their own benefit, but I am not going to allow that to happen," Fulmer said in a statement Monday. "This day is for the players. They should be centered instead of this small group of lawyers who intend on attacking the integrity

of the NCAA's enforcement process."

University president John Petersen and athletic director Mike Hamilton defended their decision to protect Fulmer from an onslaught of media attention and the threat of being served a subpoena.

"I don't think this is a tucking and running," Hamilton said during a news conference on Monday.

One of the attorneys notified SEC Commissioner Mike Slive that Fulmer would be issued a subpoena at media days if the coach did not agree to give a deposition. The Tuscaloosa News reported Monday on its Web site.

Fulmer will be fined \$10,000 by the SEC for not attending media days, but will be allowed to report to Tuscaloosa for the conference during the time he was supposed

to appear in person.

Players Michael Munoz and Kevin Burnett will attend as scheduled.

Petersen tried to persuade Slive not to fine Fulmer.

"I think we will potentially avert something that would not be in the best interest of the NCAA, the conference or the coach of the University of Tennessee," Petersen said.

Tennessee officials voiced their concern last week about Fulmer's safety in Birmingham while meeting with reporters at the annual SEC event. Fulmer was scheduled to appear the same day Alabama coach Mike Slive and two players are on the agenda.

Media days is held in a hotel and many fans — mostly of Alabama — go to watch the players and coaches.

In 2000, Fulmer was interviewed three times by an NCAA investigator looking into possible recruiting violations at Alabama. Other coaches from the SEC and the SEC association also spoke to investigators, according to NCAA documents. Some,



Fulmer

including Fulmer, also testified before a grand jury in Memphis that indicted Alabama booster Logan Young, who allegedly paid \$150,000 to steer prospect Albert Means to Alabama in 1999.

Attorney Tommy Gallion and his colleagues, who are representing former Tide coach Ronnie Cottrell in a lawsuit against the NCAA, have alleged Fulmer provided information to the NCAA in exchange for the NCAA overlooking violations at Tennessee.

Fulmer has defended his actions in the past, but had not said much at length publicly about it until Monday's statement.

"When you get behind all the smoke and the big pile of lawsuits, the truth is, the truth stands: rules were broken, an investigation proved it, those who broke the rules admitted their guilt, and a university paid the price. There are a few people who cannot accept the truth, so they file lawsuits hoping the truth will go away," Fulmer said.

"As one of several coaches contacted by the NCAA regarding these serious violations by a small group of boosters, my response was honest, in line with our code of conduct, and the right thing to do."

Stakes raised in Miami-FSU rivalry

By EMILY BADGER

The Orlando Sentinel

ORLANDO, Fla. — Larry Coker and Bobby Bowden have been pretty good sports about this: Each just watched his chance of winning a national championship get harder, but they continue to preach how happy they are for football in Florida and fans across the country to now that Miami is in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

The Miami-Florida State rivalry that looked like it couldn't get any bigger will this fall, with an ACC title likely on the line. And that title is harder to earn than it has been in the past for FSU and harder than a Big East title was for Miami — but they will be required should either school vie for a national championship.

"It's great for college football," Coker said Sunday on the final day of the Florida Sports Writers Association's kickoff conference with all the college coaches in the state. "I don't know if it's great for Miami or Larry Coker, but it's great for college football."

The Big East was kind to Coker, and he said he was ready to leave it. But the lure of a more lucrative TV contract with the ACC and better financial stability for the entire athletic department made the decision a good one, he said.

"You're a head coach playing for a national championship. You win one, you play for another. That part of it was good," he said.

Bowden was waiting with

open arms. He said he has been pleading with the ACC to admit Miami since FSU joined the conference, largely because the schools meet every year regardless of conference affiliation.

"I got to play them, and nobody else wants to play them," Bowden said in the wake of the ACC. "I want to introduce you other people to the University of Miami."

The teams will open the season against each other on Sept. 6 in Miami's Orange Bowl.

One of the top teams in the country — and guaranteed to be ranked high in preseason polls — will be 0-1. That fear has led some fans to suggest the game should be played later in the season.

But Coker and Bowden embraced the schedule, saying it automatically would rocket the school to the top of college football while leaving the loser enough time to recover by bowl season.

"People say, 'Well, why do you want to play them first?' That's not a good time," Bowden said. "Well, I say there ain't no good time to play them, so let's play it the first game of the season and get the thing over with."

That game may open a new era in which the ACC replaces the Southeastern Conference. Big 12 or Big Ten as college football's power conference.

"I don't know if it will be the elite conference," Bowden said of the new ACC. "But I don't know anybody who will be any eliter."

ACC teams like the new lineup

By AARON BEARD

The Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. — The rest of the Atlantic Coast Conference hardly sounds intimidated by the prospect of facing league newcomers Miami and Virginia Tech.

"I think it brings another level of play," North Carolina State wide receiver Trammain Hall said at the ACC Football Kickoff on Sunday.

"We had athletes already in the league, but they're bringing some better athletes and a lot more speed."

"But my thing is they put their pads on just like we put ours on. There ain't no reason to go out there and fear them."

The two schools officially joined the ACC on July 1, leaving the Big East Conference in a contentious process that ended last summer. Boston College will become the ACC's 12th member next year, giving the league the number of teams required for a lucrative conference title game.

The ambitious plan by ACC Commissioner John Swofford was designed to make the league — known as the college ball conference — the nation's best in football.

Several players at the preseason event Sunday said the league had become just that.

In fact, Florida State wide receiver Chaphone Thorpe joked that he'd like to play a schedule of only ACC opponents.

"That would be perfectly fine with me," Thorpe

said. "I feel like the ACC is, if not the best conference, is one of the best. There's great talent. Why should you have to go outside your conference when you have the talent right here?"

The league gets two of the nation's most successful programs in the past five years in Miami and Virginia Tech. The Hurricanes have won 55 games and a national championship, while playing two title games during that time.

Florida State, meanwhile, won 48 games and reached the title game in 1999.

"They'll now compete with conference power Florida State, which has won 11 ACC titles and two national championship ships in the last 15 seasons, and Virginia Tech. The Hurricanes have won 55 games and a national championship, while playing two title games during that time."

Preseason poll

Selected by an 88-member media panel, the ACC Football Kickoff on Monday, Number 1 in parentheses is first-place votes.

1. Florida State (48)
2. Miami (38)
3. Virginia (2)
4. Clemson (1)
5. Maryland
6. Virginia Tech
7. NC State
8. Georgia Tech
9. Wake Forest
10. North Carolina
11. Duke

votes from an 88-member panel, edging Miami by 12 points.

Florida State coach Bobby Bowden was unfazed. "Nobody does the preseason better than me," Bowden said, the winning coach in Division I-A with 342 victories. "I am the preseason champ. I haven't got a trophy to show for it yet."

Florida State and Miami play on Labor Day in Miami's Orange Bowl.

Miami to admit troubled recruit Williams

By TIM REYNOLDS

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Miami will admit to recruit Willie Williams, but will impose tough conditions on the star linebacker who has a criminal record. The school was unaware of when it offered him a scholarship.

In a letter announcing the decision, university president Donna Williams said the ACC would "placed the bar high" for Williams, considered the top high school linebacker by many recruiting services.

"There will be academic conditions that he must meet to play football at Miami," Shalala wrote in the letter released to the campus community Tuesday. "Addi-

tionally, he will participate in a program that we provide for all athletes that provides mentoring, constructive counseling and monitoring of their behavior — both on and off campus."

Athletic director Paul Dee and coach Larry Coker scheduled a news conference on Tuesday with Williams expected to attend.

The 6-foot-2, 225-pound Williams pleaded no contest earlier this summer in two separate cases that occurred in Gainesville during his official visit to Florida, one of his many pursuits. He faced a felony count of setting off fire extinguishers at a store along with a misdemeanor battery charge for hugging a woman without consent.

Each plea resulted in a year's

probation being levied against Williams, whose arrest record dates back to 1989, mainly for theft and burglary. What happened in Gainesville could have sent Williams to jail for a year; he was already on probation for a 2002 felony burglary charge.

A University of Miami panel ultimately recommended that the school admit the Parade All-American.

"They brought broad experience in reading complicated admissions applications, which in this case allowed for a more accurate picture of a young man than what you have read to date," Shalala wrote.

Williams' arrest record and his antics played against him in Gainesville were revealed Feb. 4, the same day Williams signed his letter of intent to enroll at Miami.

Redskins sign top-pick Taylor to seven-year, \$18M contract

The Associated Press

ASHBURN, Va. — Sean Taylor signed a seven-year, \$18 million deal with the Washington Redskins on Tuesday, capping an unorthodox offseason for the No. 5 overall draft pick.

Taylor became the NFL's first tight end to pick this season, even though he first signed his contract shortly after the draft and didn't hire a new one until last week. In between, he was fined \$25,000 for the league for leaving a mandatory rookie symposium in June.

"I'm real happy to have all the business stuff out of the way and all the agent issues out of the way and get back to football," said Taylor, who flew to Redskins Park from his Miami home Tuesday.

The details of the contract were confirmed by a Redskins official in the negotiations, who both spoke on condition of anonymity. The sources said Taylor will receive a \$7.2 million signing bonus, and that the total bonus money in the deal — including option and roster bonuses — exceeds \$13 million.

The contract also has escalators that can make the deal worth up to \$40 million for six years, although the seventh year will be voided. The escalators are based on playing time, performance and Pro Bowl or All-Pro selections.

Taylor is expected to start Washington's opening day starter at free safety. He will join the team on the practice field Wednesday for the final day of a three-day practice camp. The first start of training camp practices — in full pads with mandatory attendance for all players under contract — began Saturday.

Raiders release Rod Woodson

ALAMEDA, Calif. — The Oakland Raiders released safety Rod Woodson on Tuesday after the 11-time Pro Bowl player failed a physical.

The 39-year-old Woodson had a chronic left knee injury last season and underwent surgery in December. Woodson was placed on injured reserve Nov. 26. Woodson said he doesn't want an injury to end his career.

Woodson, a 17-year veteran who spent the past two seasons with Oakland, is third on the NFL's career list with 71 interceptions. He has 1,483 yards on interception returns are the most in league history.

Woodson will have surgery, miss Cowboys training camp

IRVING, Texas — Dallas Cowboys coach A. J. Smith said that Rod Woodson will have surgery on his injured back Tuesday. He will miss all of training camp and probably the start of the regular season.

The 35-year-old Woodson visited a doctor Monday, and the decision was made to perform surgery to remove a herniated disk. He has the sidelined six to eight weeks, a period that extends past the Cowboys' regular-season opener Sept. 12 at Minnesota.

Woodson, going into his 13th season, is the team's career tackles leader with 1,350 and the only remaining player who was part of

NFL Briefs

all three Super Bowl wins by the Cowboys in the 1990s.

Also on Monday, receiver Antonio Bryant met with coach Bill Parcells and team owner Jerry Jones to clear the air between them prior to the start of training camp after Bryant threw his jersey at Parcells last month during a minicamp.

"He's getting another opportunity," Jones said. "I certainly believe if your heart is in the right place, you should have second chances."

49ers' contract talks with Peterson are in a stalemate

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — The San Francisco 49ers' contract talks with All-Pro linebacker Julian Peterson are in a stalemate, and he is expected to hold out when training camp opens Friday.

The 49ers are preparing for life without their "two-time Pro Bowler while clinging to hope he'll accept their contract proposal or a one-year franchise tender once it ends what could quickly become a nasty holdout.

Peterson skipped the 49ers' minicamps to protest his negotiations with the club. He hasn't been in regular contact with the team since San Francisco designated him as the franchise player in February.

Jets sign No. 1 pick Vilma

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — The New York Jets signed top draft choice Vilma on Tuesday, two days before the team opens camp.

Vilma, a linebacker from Miami, is expected to compete for a starting job with veteran Sam Cowart, who has been switched to the inside after playing outside last season.

Vilma, the 12th overall pick in the draft, is the sixth of 32 first-round choices to sign.

Pats LB Colvin reportedly not ready for start of camp

FOXBORO, Mass. — New England Patriots linebacker Roosevelt Colvin, who missed most of last year with a broken left hip, was placed on the team's physically unable to perform list, the Boston Herald reported Tuesday.

The move means Colvin, who injured his hip in the second game last season, will not participate in training camp, which begins Thursday. It does not, however, mean that Colvin will miss regular-season games.

DT Russell suspended again

NEW YORK — Defensive tackle Darrell Russell, released two weeks ago by Tampa Bay, has been suspended indefinitely by the team after testing positive for drugs.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said the troubled former Pro Bowler, the second overall pick in the 1997 draft, can apply for reinstatement after eight games if he is signed by a team.

Training camp dates

Rookie and veteran reporting dates (Dates subject to change)

AFC BALTIMORE RAIDERS — McDaniel College, Westminster, Md., both July 29. BUFFALO BILLS — St. John Fisher College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., both July 31. CINCINNATI BENGALS — Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky., both July 20.

CHICAGO BEARS — Browns Training Facility, Berea, Ohio, both July 30. DENVER BRONCOS — Paul D. Bowler Memorial Center, Englewood, Colo., both July 29.

HOUSTON TEXANS — Texans' Practice Facility, Houston, both July 29.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Rose-Hulman Institute, Terre Haute, Ind., both Aug. 1. JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — ALTELL State, Jacksonville, Fla., both July 30.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Wisconsin State, River Falls, Wis., both July 29.

MINN. DOLPHINS — Dolphins Training Center, Davie, Fla., both July 29.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Gillette Stadium, Foxboro, Mass., both July 29.

NEW YORK GIANTS — MetLife, N. Hempstead, N.Y., both July 29.

OAKLAND RAIDERS — Napa Valley Marriott, Napa, Calif., both July 29.

OAKLAND RAIDERS — Vincent College, Latrobe, Pa., both July 30.

ST. LOUIS RAMBLERS — Sports Park, Nashville, Tenn., both July 30.

ARIZONA CARDINALS — Northern Arizona Univ., Flagstaff, Ariz., both July 29.

ATLANTA FAULTS — Furman U., Greenville, S.C., both July 29.

ATLANTA PATRIOTS — Wofford College, Spartanburg, S.C., both July 29.

BUFFALO BILLS — St. John Fisher College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., both July 31.

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CHICAGO BEARS — Browns Training Facility, Berea, Ohio, both July 30.



Eagles coach Andy Reid threw out the first pitch at the Philadelphia Phillies game on Saturday. Now his attention is solely on football.

Once again, Eagles eyeing Super Bowl

By ROB MAADDI

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Nothing less than a trip to the Super Bowl will be considered a success for the Philadelphia Eagles this year.

Sound familiar? It was the same theme heading into training camp the past two seasons.

After losing the NFC championship game for the third consecutive year, the Eagles had an exciting offseason, adding star wide receiver Terrell Owens and defensive end Jevon Kearse and bringing in quarterback Jeremiah Trotter back to Philadelphia.

Now, they really have no more excuses if they fall short.

Training camp opened Tuesday with rookies and selected veterans reporting to Lehigh University. Veterans are due in Friday, and the team's first full practice is Sunday.

The Eagles finished 12-4 last season after going 0-2. They secured the No. 1 seed in the NFC for the second year in a row, but again couldn't take advantage of playing at home in the playoffs.

Expectations again are high, despite the loss of cornerbacks Troy Vincent, a five-time Pro Bowl selection, and Bobby Taylor, who went to the Pro Bowl two years ago. Running back Duce Staley, a three-time, 1,000-yard rusher, and linebacker Carlos Emmons, the team's defensive MVP last season, also left through free agency.

But the additions of Owens, Kearse, Trotter and linebacker Dhanai Jones put the Eagles in position to win a fourth straight NFC East title and challenge for the conference championship.

Owens, a four-time Pro Bowl player with the San Francisco 49ers, gives quarterback Donovan McNabb the No. 1 target he desperately needed. In the season-ending 14-3 loss to the Carolina Panthers last January, starting receivers James Thrash and Todd Pinkston combined for one catch.

McNabb rebounded from a poor start to throw for 3,216

yards, 16 TDs and 11 interceptions. He also ran for 355 yards and three scores, earning his fourth consecutive trip to the Pro Bowl.

Owens should improve McNabb's numbers, but it will be interesting to see how well the outspoken receiver fits into Andy Reid's balanced offensive scheme. Owens wasn't happy whenever 49ers quarterback Jeff Garcia didn't throw his way, and didn't hold back in his criticism of San Francisco's offensive coordinator.

Likewise, the subtraction of Vincent and Emmons, locker room leaders, could change the chemistry.

Kearse, a three-time Pro Bowl selection with the Tennessee Titans, gives the Eagles the pass rusher they have lacked since the departure of Hugh Douglas. Starting defensive ends N.D. Kalu and Brandon Whiting combined for 7½ sacks last season. Kearse had 9½ himself, despite missing three games to injury.

The loss of Staley will affect the Eagles' three-headed rushing attack. Staley, Correll Buckhalter and Brian Westbrook shared the running duties last year, combining for 1,818 yards rushing, 83 catches and 27 touchdowns (20 rushing, seven receiving).

Emmons' departure was offset by the signing of Jones, who will start at strongside linebacker in what was essentially a trade — Jones came from the Browns and Emmons went there. Trotter, a two-time Pro Bowl middle linebacker with the Eagles in 2000, began camp behind Mark Simoneau.

Third-year pro Lito Sheppard and Sheldon Brown will replace Vincent and Taylor. Other faces include first-round pick Shane Andrews, who is expected to start at right guard. Andrews, however, remained unsigned on Monday along with five other draft picks. Only running back Bruce Perry, two other seventh-round selections and sixth-round picks Dexter Wynn and Andy Hall have signed. Wynn and Hall each signed four-year deals on Monday.

SPORTS



Can WR Owens, DE Kearse give Eagles long-awaited push into Super Bowl? Page 39



Texas Rangers pitcher Kenny Rogers, above, is tied with the Oakland Athletics' Mark Mulder for the most wins in the majors (13). The 39-year-old left-hander has evolved from a hard-throwing reliever to a finesse pitcher in 16 seasons, going 39-19 in his past 85 starts.

10 years of tenacity

A decade after his perfect game, Rangers' Rogers still tough to beat

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Kenny Rogers was perfect, yet he didn't even realize it.

Sure, the Texas Rangers left-hander knew he hadn't allowed a hit that July night 10 years ago. What Rogers didn't know was that he had just thrown a perfect game — or even what one was.

"I had no idea," Rogers recalled this month. "I was not kidding about that, not knowing and understanding and comprehending what kind of game it was, and how so few times it had been accomplished."

There have been only three perfect games since Rogers' feat at home against the Angels on July 28, 1994 — a span of about 24,000 major league games. The latest was Arizona's Randy Johnson retiring all 27 Atlanta batters he faced in May at age 40, the oldest pitcher to throw a perfect game and a year older than Rogers is now.

The anniversary of the first perfect game by an AL left-hander is Wednesday, when Rogers (13-5) is scheduled to pitch at Anaheim.

"Maybe we'll get another one," Rogers said. "You never know."

A decade older and slower, Rogers isn't throwing pitches past batters anymore like Johnson still can. But he's still getting them out, an All-Star whose 13 wins are tied with Oakland's Mark Mulder for the most in the major leagues.

"He still has great stuff, even though he's like 48 years old," Rangers catcher Rod Barajas said. "He's still able to go out there and keep these guys off balance and reach back and get 91, 92 (mph) every now and then. He's a smart guy."

Rogers has become a different pitcher over 16 major league seasons, far from the hard-throwing reliever who appeared in an AL-high 81 games in 1992. He's now a starter who relies more on groundballs than strikeouts, smarts over speed. He says he's figured out how to pitch.

Since missing the final 2½ months of the 2001 season — his only time on the disabled list — because of a circulatory problem caused by a rib pinching nerves and arteries, Rogers is 39-19 in 85 starts.

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Rogers, top left, is congratulated by Texas Rangers teammates Ivan Rodriguez (7) and Will Clark after throwing a perfect game against the California Angels in Arlington, Texas, on July 28, 1994. It was the first perfect game thrown by an AL left-hander.



Twins bowl over White Sox, push lead in AL Central to 1½ games

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Diamondbacks snap club-record losing streak at 14 games

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Subpoena threat will keep Vols football coach Fulmer away from SEC media days

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